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A FEW HENS

THE POULTRY PAPER FOR BEGINNERS.

VOL. 4.

BOSTON, MASS., NOV. 15, 1900.

NO. 5.

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A FEW HENS, Box 2118, Boston, Mass.

EDITORIAL HINTS.

Cull.
Clean up.
Fall is here.
Gather wood.
Breed the best.
Buy new blood.
Let in the light.
Hens love quiet.
Repair the roofs.
Have a specialty.
No time to waste.
"Git up an' git!"
Market regularly.
Don't get excited.
Gather the leaves.
Prepare for Winter.
Winter's coming on.
Tame hens for profit.
Get the hens to work.
Cater to family trade.
Molting is about over.
Whitewash disinfects.
Have cheerful houses.
Get rid of the surplus.
Poor care—poor stock.
Exercise means success.
Study the best methods.
A nail in time saves nine.
Kill the quarrelsome hen.
Don't fear overproduction.
Rub off the dusty windows.
How's the road dust supply?
Neatness is an advertisement.
Paint preserves and beautifies.
Small quarters—small results.
Crowded quarters—sickly stock.
Take advantage of the fine weather.

Experimental Farm Notes.

Three More Individual Records Pass the 100 Mark—Big Drop in Number of Eggs and Layers—12 Brahmas, 17 White Wyandottes, 10 White Plymouth Rocks, 1 Silver Wyandotte, and 1 Rhode Island Red, Have Laid from 80 to 139 Eggs Each up to October 1st—General Notes and Comments.

Molting started among our flocks in dead earnest. There was a big drop in number of eggs and layers.

We are glad to see such a ready response to molting in September, as it gives assurance that the hens will be ready for good work during the Winter. Among the leaders it is gratifying to note how well the Brahmas keep up, being second in the list; while the White Plymouth Rocks, although leading in individual records, as a body are only third in the race. The White Wyandottes seem determined to again this year lead on our farm, as they have done every year.

Of course, we have yet three months' records to give—October, November and December, but as no great change can be expected during October and November, owing to the hens just about completing their molt, the struggle for supremacy must, necessarily, be done in the closing month of the year.

A study of the individual record will show that up to October 1st, 3 White Plymouth Rocks, 6 White Wyandottes, 2 Felch Brahmas, and 1 Rhode Island Red, have passed the 100 mark; 1 Felch Brahma, 2 Cost Brahmas, 1 Silver Wyandotte, 2 White Wyandottes, and 4 White Plymouth Rocks have passed the 90 mark; and 9 White Wyandottes, 4 Cost Brahmas, 2 Felch Brahmas, 1 Roberts Brahma, and 3 White Plymouth Rocks have passed the 80 mark.

During the month of September the following number of hens were laying:

Pen No. 0	2
1	4
2	8
3	4
4	4
5	12
6	7

Pen No. 7	11
8	7
9	5
R. I. Reds	9
Miscellaneous	1

Total, 74

A loss of 34 layers during the month.

The above table represents the following number of layers of each breed:

Wyandottes	27
Brahmas	25
White Plymouth Rocks	12
Rhode Island Reds	9

During the month the following number of eggs were laid (not including miscellaneous stock):

W. P. Rocks, 12 head, 125 eggs; average	10.5
Wyandottes, 27 head, 268 eggs; average	9.25
Brahmas, 25 head, 156 eggs; average	6.5
R. I. Reds, 9 head, 40 eggs; average	4.6

The highest number of eggs we gathered in one day, during the month of September, was 37; the lowest number 2.

The highest number of Brahma eggs received in one day was 11; the lowest number 0.

The highest number of Wyandotte eggs received in one day was 20; the lowest number 0.

The highest number of White Plymouth Rock eggs received in one day was 8; the lowest number 1.

The highest number of Rhode Island Red eggs received in one day was 5; the lowest number 0.

The standing of individual layers is as follows (from January 1 to October 1—excluding all that laid under 80 eggs in that time):

No. 46, White Plymouth Rock	139 eggs
75, " "	131
45, White Wyandotte	127
38, " "	120
86, Rhode Island Red	114
26, White Wyandotte	112
30, " "	111
18, " "	111
21, " "	104
16, Brahma (Felch)	104
52, White Plymouth Rock	101
32, Brahma (Felch)	100
34, " "	99
Silver Wyandotte	98
16, White Wyandotte	96
76, White Plymouth Rock	96
77, " "	95
66, " "	94
81, " "	92
52, Brahma (Cost)	92
59, " "	91

No. 15, White Wyandotte.....	91 eggs
5, " ".....	89
4, " ".....	89
11, " ".....	88
7, " ".....	88
17, " ".....	88
43, " ".....	88
61, Brahma (Cost).....	88
63, White Plymouth Rock.....	88
46, Brahma (Cost).....	87
28, White Wyandotte.....	87
56, Brahma (Cost).....	85
70, White Plymouth Rock.....	85
62, Brahma (Cost).....	84
21, " (Felch).....	83
6, " (Roberts).....	82
23, White Wyandotte.....	82
29, ".....	80
17, Brahma (Felch).....	80
73, White Plymouth Rock.....	80

* * *

The highest individual egg record during the month belongs to White Plymouth Rock hen No. 46, she having laid 14 eggs.

The total number of eggs laid on the farm during September was 599, being 696 eggs less than laid during the previous month.

During September the highest price we received for eggs was 24 cents a dozen; lowest, 20 cents; average, 22 cents.

Eggs and Egg Farming.

Breed Only From Your Best Laying Hens and You Will Gradually be Building up a Profitable Strain—The Only Way to Determine Which are Your Bread-Winners is to have Reliable, Accurate Trap Nests.

- ✓ Trap nests for facts.
- ✓ Trap nests tame the hens.
- ✓ Trap nests for accurate reports.
- ✓ Trap nests arrest the robber hens.
- ✓ Trap nests for "an honest count."
- ✓ Trap nests expose the fraudulent hens.
- ✓ The progressive poulterer uses trap nests.

This is the season when eggs bring the most money.

Daniel Pinckney says he had a Houdan hen that laid 91 eggs in 100 days.

- ✓ Trap nests now rank with the incubator, brooder, cooker, bone and root cutter, and all other necessary machinery.

Poultry Culture says A FEW HENS is doing a world of good with its experiments with different breeds for eggs.

G. A. McFetridge says it is his practice to candle all the eggs no matter how fresh they are. Fresh-laid eggs quite frequently have clots of blood in them. When candled, such eggs can easily be seen.

The *American Agriculturist* says a Buff Leghorn hen, owned by J. W. Van Deusen, Otsego county, New York, began laying October 5, 1899, and up to August 23, 1900, had laid one egg each day, a total of 323 eggs.

Wonderful egg records are always in order, no matter what the breed or variety, says the *Michigan Poultry Breeder*. It is like the milk and butter records of certain cows. Feed will do it. But it is the honest, every day business, all the year around, on natural feed, that is of more account in the long run.

Russian egg exports are increasing steadily, the shipments last year amounting to 1800 million eggs, representing a value of more than \$15,000,000, says *American Agriculturist*.

To stimulate this business the Russian government is admitting free of duty packing cases for the export of eggs, this concession to last for five years.

In Scotland and Ireland children are told by their nurse to crush the shell after eating an egg, or to push the spoon through the bottom in the form of a cross, showing a lingering relic of the once general superstitious belief that witches lived in egg shells and made boats of them, casting spells upon the household, says the *New York Farmer*.

According to the *Somerville (Mass.) Journal*, a Somerville man borrowed a neighbor's hen recently on the pretense that he wanted her to set. As soon as he got the hen he broke up the setting habit and got her to laying eggs. In the next six weeks she laid two dozen eggs. These he sold for 40 cents a dozen, and with the 80 cents he got for them he bought the hen. Now the question arises whether the original owner of the hen was fooled or not.

The *New York Farmer* says in Italy it was believed that an egg laid by a white hen in a new nest on Easter day would cure pains in the head or stomach; that broken in a vineyard it would prevent its suffering from hail; or similarly would save a field from frost; and its possession gave one the power to see witches. It was also believed that an egg laid on Good Friday, thrown in the fire would extinguish it, while the devil would be killed if shot with an egg laid on Christmas.

Poultry Success prints the following in a recent issue:

While Dr. Gordon Stables (than whom no one is better known to lovers of animals) was breakfasting at a hotel, a bad egg (which formed part of the menu (was the cause of the Doctor penning the following lines, which he gave to the waiter:

Now what do you think an egg should be?
Why, pure and sweet as the breath of the sea.
Beyond suspicion, like Caesar's wife,
It never should tarnish the sheen of a knife.

The shell of a good egg is smoother than silk;
Inside, the white overflowing with milk;
While the yolk of this egg as red should be
As the lips of a healthy wee maiden of three.

If the egg shell is brittle, mind, that is a fault.
And shows that this ovum has long lain in salt.
Like an egg I had at a certain hotel,
Ugh! 'twas strange as to taste, and doubtful in smell.

I pushed it away; laid it gently aside,
While I wondered how long since its parent had died;
"Oh! waiter," I said, "dear waiter, I beg
You will show me the rooster who mothered this egg."

But the tears trickled down that poor waiter's face;

"I'll tell you," he blubbered, "should it cost me my place.

'Tis two years or more since the hen crossed that bourne
Whence tuckies and travelers never return."

I gave him a coin to assuage his deep woe,
Then away from that inn I slowly did go;
But at times even yet, when not overwell,
That egg haunts my dreams—with its taste and its smell.

A reader of A FEW HENS writes: "The reference to hens with red combs, bright eyes, etc., being in laying condition, which I noticed in John R. Benson's 'pipe dream' last month, reminds me of one of my Plymouth

Rock yearlings. She began to lay in February, and laid two eggs during the month; she never laid again, and was sent to market in July. This bird had bright eyes, scarlet comb, was active and went on the nest daily, sometimes several times a day, during the time that we kept her. She was not an egg eater—she did not recognize an egg when she saw one, and was one of the handsomest and best marked birds that we had. If she had not laid those two eggs we might have thought her a 'rooster pullet.' Some, perhaps, have the necessary skill to detect such hens by observation, but many would think that they were laying or just about to lay. The trap nest tells the story, and tells it right. Observation is important, but the combination of trap nests and observation cannot be beaten. It is worthy of note that the anti-trap nest observationists are eagerly scrambling for the crumbs that fall from the trap nests' table, while boasting that they are well fed at home."

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MAKE HENS LAY

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The regular price is a one pound Can 25 cents, or five Cans \$1.00; but for the month of **November only** we will sell a one pound Can 15 cts., or seven cans \$1.00.

Now is your chance to lay in a supply of this Food, and you will have plenty of Eggs when cold weather comes.

Special Notice:

To the first 500 persons sending us \$1.00 for 7 Cans, we will give them as a premium one of Kuhns' Egg Record and Account Books. These books sell at 25c. each and will keep a record of one pen of fowl for 10 years, or 10 pens of fowl for one year. This is the greatest offer ever made and everybody should accept this offer, as you get the book absolutely FREE, besides the 7 Cans of BANNER EGG FOOD and TONIC for \$1.00, which regularly sell at \$1.75.

Orders booked in advance, but no orders filled before November 1st, and none later than November 30th.

N. B. If sent by mail, add 20 cts. for each can for postage, but the 7 Cans are cheaper by express, purchaser paying all charges.

Send your orders in at once to insure receiving the book.

Our 120 page Illustrated Poultry Supply Catalogue mailed free on request.

When writing mention this paper.

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POULTRY SUPPLY CO.,

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About Broilers and Roasters.

The Holidays are Approaching, Which Will Mean a Demand for Roasting Fowls—Before Shipping, However, to a Holiday Market, Have a Full Understanding With the Commission Merchant as to Demand and Quality, or You Might Strike a Glutted Market.

There should be a day's fasting before caponizing.

The best age for caponizing is between the age of three and four months.

The skin of the Langshan is a pure white—not a dark nor bluish white.

A capon is a castrated male bird; a poularde a female that has been operated upon.

The best indication of failure in caponizing is when the bird refuses to eat anything after a few hours. It is best then to kill it.

Cold storage fowls will never have the place in the popular regard that the freshly dressed fowls have, says the *Farmers' Review*.

The Houdan is a small-boned fowl, having a thick breast, and the flesh is tender and juicy. They make fine broilers, and the best of roasters.

Michigan *Farmer* says: "Raise what the public demands and you will be more apt to make money than by following your own inclinations."

To obtain the best prices for broilers, the *American Agriculturist* advises hatching from October 1 to February 1, and the broilers all in market by July 1.

The Langshan meat is fine grained, tender and juicy; thin skin and small bone, and while possibly not so much admired in the market as the yellow-skinned breeds, none surpasses it for tenderness and flavor when served on the table.

The *Kentucky Poultry Journal* says practical common sense should teach us that if a fowl has a good sized, plump body, with not too much bone, it would make a good table fowl, and that the color of the legs has no more effect on the quality of the flesh than the color of the feather has.

The popular fowl for the table must, in most sections of this country, have yellow legs. The *Kentucky Poultry Journal* says just how the color of the legs can affect the flavor of the flesh is one thing that even the strongest advocates of the yellow leg have been unable to satisfactorily explain.

The dark plumaged varieties have been objected to on account of having dark pin feathers. It is true they do not make an attractive appearance. The *Kentucky Poultry Journal* says: "While we personally do not care to eat feathers of any color, we can't see why a dark colored pin feather should taste any worse than a white one."

American Agriculturist says, in an article on caponizing and fattening in France: Capon and poularde rearing is a general industry in Normandy, Maine and La Bresse. Poulardes are peculiar to La Fleche and Le Mans; on market days they can be seen by the hundred in heaps. It is the peasant farmer, or the allotment holder,

who fattens the hens; they buy the young birds most likely to fatten from the breeders.

Poultry and poultry products are a great boon to the people of this age of adulteration of food products, says *Farmers' Review*. The packers are even rubbing our beef, mutton and pork with preservatives—boracic acid and the like. Even our fish are under suspicion, and it is asserted that all oysters eaten away from the seaboard have been saturated with chemical preservatives. Verily, our stomachs are put to a very severe test, whether with meats or canned goods. But the egg and the live fowl cannot be tampered with. The best preservative is life, and so we can always know that our poultry ration is free from preservatives, at least if we buy our fowls and dress them ourselves.

"As a table fowl the Langshan cannot be excelled; in fact, I claim they have no equal," writes John Hettich, in *American Fancier*. "Their flesh is white, juicy, tender and fine grained. I regard, and I am not alone of this opinion, a full grown Langshan properly cooked is as good as any turkey. They are easily dressed, plump in body, and have pure white skin. The only objection ever offered against the Langshan is that they are black, that they are hard to pick, but I venture the assertion that no one who ever tried a pure Langshan will make this objection, for the Langshan is a rather loose feathered fowl and therefore easily picked. They show few pin

feathers, unless it is in molting season when new feathers are just growing, and at this time other fowls will show pin feathers, I care not what the breed or color is."

When fattening we do not need to give frame-growing foods at all. What is wanted is to increase the amount of flesh and fat, writes W. N. Freeman, in *Farmers' Gazette*. This can be brought about by giving a surfeit and by preventing exercise, which tends to the distribution of heat and prevents the accumulation of fresh bodily substance. Fatty, starch and sugary foods are recommended for fattening purposes. Thus, fat meat residues, Indian meal, potatoes, rice and cow's milk are amongst the best foods for fattening purposes. Many people of experience recommend oatmeal to be given with milk for fattening purposes, and that is excellent. Oatmeal contains if anything more fat-forming matter than Indian meal, and is to be preferred to that on account of its effect upon the color of the fat. Oatmeal, too, not only contains a considerably higher percentage of starch or heat-giving matter, and thus is more easy of digestion than is Indian meal.

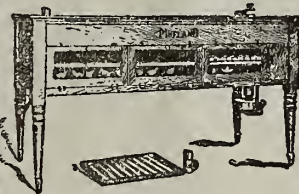
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Our Brevity Symposium.

Readers of A FEW HENS are Invited to Answer Queries that Monthly Appear in these Columns, as Well as Ask Questions to be Answered.

No. 19.

How many hens do you keep in a house 14 x 20 feet?

My houses are 10 x 18, built on Mr. Hunter's plan of scratching sheds. I keep 30 hens in each house.—O. A. Sleeper, Warnesville, Neb.

I would keep 30 hens in a house of 280 square feet, although it would do for 45 if extra care was given to cleanliness and exercise.—Emory E. Banks, Crittenden, N. Y.

House 14 x 20 feet would hold two pens of 12 to 15 each.—William E. Anderson, Belvidere, N. J.

Twenty-five hens in pen 10 x 18 feet.—J. W. Strowbridge, Dundee, N. Y.

Not more than 40.—L. H. LeBaun, Binghampton State Hospital, N. Y.

No. 20.

Would you advise to build a house 100 feet long, or divide it up in different rooms apart from each other?

I should divide a house 100 feet long into rooms or pens of convenient size to secure the best results.—Robert Atkins, New York.

Divide it in rooms or pens; not necessary to have the partitions solid, though it would be well to have one or two solid partitions and the rest netting.—L. H. LeBaun.

Build in single or double houses. My house is 108 feet and unhandy to work in.—J. W. Strowbridge.

Do not exactly understand your question. Whatever you mean, I am opposed to more than 25 hens together in one flock under any circumstances; 12 to 15 would be better.—William E. Anderson.

By all means build a house 100 feet long, dividing it up into pens in preference to building several houses apart from each other.—Emory E. Banks.

I would build a house 100 feet long under one roof, but divide into five pens of 20 feet each, having close board partitions with 3 feet doors in front of partitions hanging on double spring hinges so it will swing both ways. This plan saves a back hallway. I do not think it is any better than separate pens, but it is much cheaper to build and easier to keep warm. Such a house will hold 125 hens with the most profit if yards 150 x 20 feet are given for runs. I keep two cocks with 25 hens, letting one out on alternate days during breeding season.—No Name, Ontario, Canada.

Prefer separate houses.—O. A. Sleeper.

No. 21.

Have you ever been troubled with bed bugs in your hen house—if so, how did you get rid of them?

Never had any, but have known them to kill hens for my neighbors.—O. A. Sleeper.

No experience. They burn sulphur in cabins on ships to kill bed bugs.—Emory E. Banks.

We have kept bed bugs out of our buildings by several times a year burning sulphur in each pen, and also twice a year giving the interior of each pen a coating of whitewash.—Chas. E. Gehring, Reading, Pa.

We had an experience with bed bugs this year and cannot for the life of us guess where they came from. But they are gone now—a generous painting of a mixture made of equal parts of kerosene and Lee's Lice Killer did it.—Geo. R. Hocker, Dallas, Texas.

No. 22.

What has been the largest number of hens you have run in a single flock, and what success did you have with them?

Had 45—but the less the number the better the results. Would not keep over 15 in one flock.—Emory E. Banks.

Had 60—got about the same number of eggs I do from 30 in a flock.—O. A. Sleeper.

Have kept as high as 73 in one flock, with unlimited run in rich meadow land, but the same hens did not lay near so well as when in pens 14 x 20, with runs 20 x 150 feet, and 25 hens to a pen. They were all White Wyandottes.—No Name, Ontario, Canada.

Twenty hens with good success; 12 with better.—William E. Anderson.

Thirty. They laid the whole season and no sickness.—J. W. Strowbridge.

Had 95 fowls in a flock, with free range. They laid as good as any since in smaller flocks but yarded.—L. H. LeBaun.

Favor small flocks. Never put more than 25 hens together. Results satisfactory.—Robert Atkins.

No. 23.

Do you know of any successful hatches from eggs imported from England?

No, sir.—William E. Anderson.

No. In fact never knew of any being shipped.—Emory E. Banks.

Yes. Two sittings received from England last Spring hatched 19 strong chicks.—No Name, Ontario, Canada.

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White WYANDOTTES P. ROCKS

are bred for utility as well as standard points. Eggs \$1.00 for 13; \$3.00 for 50. Young stock for sale.

MAPLE GROVE POULTRY YARDS,
S. A. TABER, Prop., (Alle. Co.,) Pike, N. Y.

A resident of Englewood hatched 17 Buff Orpington chicks from 24 eggs brought over by him from England. I believe they are all living now, although mostly males.—E. R. Reid, Englewood, N. J.

No. 24.

Are late hatches, as a rule, successful, and how should they be handled?

Don't see much difference in late hatching from any other time except when hens are molting. They should be handled the same as very early hatches.—Emory E. Banks.

I think late hatches are only successful in a cool, shady spot for the chicks, with little if any sun on them. Don't like chicks after June 1st.—William E. Anderson.

Yes. In August and September, when the weather gets cool, put them in hatching houses built on Mr. Boyer's plan, 4 x 5 feet. They make fine



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Are hatched in
PRAIRIE STATE
INCUBATORS AND BROODERS.

The ease of operation and reliability of regulation make the Prairie State Machines the leaders of the day. There is no guessing—they are absolute in their work. **322 First Premiums** at the leading shows. Catalogue—free.

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"Spring" chickens about Christmas.—O. A. Sleeper.

Comparing a late hatch of last year with earlier hatches this year, would lead me to think that two weeks in Fall are not equal to one in Summer for development of chicks.—J. W. Strowbridge.

Should say not. If from vigorous stock, not drained by excesses, they should turn out well, but it being out of season, so to speak, one is apt to neglect them, making it unprofitable. Given clean, dry quarters and seasonable foods they will pay.—Robert Atkins.

As a rule, No. But they can be made to do fairly well if conditions are right. Should be put in outdoor brooders if possible. If you have to use a brooder house, get the chicks out of it just as soon as you can get them to do without heat. Give plenty of fresh air and reduce the heat in the brooder whether out or indoor as soon as possible. If in a brooder house, just as soon as you can get them to go through the night without crowding so as to kill any. Put them in a box of some kind if you have not a good cool outdoor brooder or coop not provided with heat, but which can be well ventilated so as not to expose the chicks to a draft during the night. Keep the brooder or box in a shady, grassy orchard and let the chicks have plenty of free range. Do not feed too often; three times a day, after they are put in cool brooders, is enough where they have free range.—L. H. LeBaun.

New Questions.

The following questions for answer have been sent to the Symposium by our readers. We hope to have a hearty response. There has been somewhat of a lull the past month in replies—probably owing to the political excitement. Remember, to maintain and improve this department it is necessary that our readers take a live interest in it.

29. How much does it cost you per head to raise pullets to laying maturity? Name breed.
30. What disease seems to trouble you most in Fall, during molting, and what measures do you adopt to prevent or treat the same?
31. About what per cent. of loss do you average from the effects of molting?
32. What style roofing do you prefer for your poultry houses?
33. In what form do you feed meat to your fowls in Winter—green bone or meat scraps or meal—and in what quantity and how often?
34. How do you provide for green food for fowls in Winter?
35. What breeds have you kept besides those you now have, and why did you give them up?
36. What were your most costly mistakes as a beginner?
37. Did you ever try duck, goose or turkey culture, and with what success?

Choice W. Wyandotte Cockerels

FOR SALE. \$1.50 and up. February, March and April hatched. Eggs in season.

GEO. A. SPRAGUE, West Stoughton, Mass.

Notes in Passing.

News in the Market Poultry World—Hints that May be of Value—Paragraphs from Our Exchanges.

Out of the barn one morning
Old Whitey came strutting down;
No common inferior hen was she,
But a Dorking of great renown.

And after her came ten chickens,
Running with all their might;
Nine had their mother's complexion fair,
But one was as black as night.

Old Whitey looked over her shoulder,
And clucked to each little pet;
But suddenly, angrily stretched her neck,
And flew at the small brunette.

And all day she pecked at the chicken,
Whenever she saw it was near;
And Dinah, the cook, at her kitchen door,
Heard its pitiful peeps of fear.

"I'm blest if dat stuck-up Dorkin'
Don't hate yer for bein' black!
But one cullud pusson can feel for anoder—
We'll pay yer ole mudder back."

So, laughing, good-natured Dinah
Quick lifted the little wight,
And shaking the dredging-box carefully o'er
him,
Lo! presently black was white.

Then away ran the floury chicken,
Looking like all the rest,
And silly old Whitey contentedly clucked
As he nestled beneath her breast.

Dinah nodded and laughed at the mother;
"Yer fooled, honey, sure, but den
When folks ebery day take appearance fer truf,
Why shouldn't a foolish ole hen?"
—Clara Louise Burnham, in *Youth's Companion*.

Work more and talk less.

There are many needed repairs. Attend to them.

If you don't now prepare for Winter you may get left.

Rake up the rubbish about the place and have a bonfire.

Take advantage of the fine weather and do your outside work.

Get in the Winter wood, if you are going to run that cooker.

A full day at cleaning up will accomplish much needed good.

Plan well for Winter—it will soon be here, and a hard one is predicted.

Don't start any more buildings until Spring, as the frost in the ground will give damp quarters.

The hen is a perpetual source of income. She stands at the head of the list of home auxiliaries, says *Pacific Homestead*.

The *Fancier's Review* says: You are courting disaster unless you give unceasing attention to the details of the poultry house and yard.

Farmer's Review says the people will before long find themselves shut up to eggs, poultry, fresh fruits and vegetables, unless we have some radical legislation in the interest of pure foods.

The main reliance of the poultry breeder is the certainty that he will always have a fairly profitable market for his meat and eggs, says *Ohio Poultry Journal*. This is the bedrock of the industry.

The *Wisconsin Poultry Journal* says: "The Belgian hare boom is at its height. The poultry business never has a boom, but continues to increase steadily. Booms are sometimes bad. Many a good thing has been 'boomed' to death."

Breeders Cocks and Cockerels. Buff, B. and W. Rocks, W. Wyans., S. C. W. Leg. Prize strains bred for utility, \$1 up. Mammoth W. H. Turkeys, \$2 up. Maple Shade Poultry Farm, Stanfordville, N. Y.

Practical stock that won 63 prems. on 54 entries last season, including winners at Boston. B. and W. Rocks, W. Wyans., S. C. B. and W. Legs, R. I. Reds, Bl. Javas. Eggs. Cir. G. A. Chapin, Hampden, Mass.

WANTED! Second hand **CYPHERS INCUBATOR.** 360-egg preferred. W. G. Hale, Nortonhill, N. Y.

WHITE WYANDOTTE COCKERELS. I have two noted Utility Breeders' strains in my yards. Best \$1.50 each; next grade \$1.00 each. L. D. ELLIOTT, Rural Route 6, Fort Wayne, Ind.

TEETH FOR HENS

Best Grit in market doth not go to dust; it's all Grit. Every surface cuts and grinds to the end and never wears round. **KEYSTONE GRANITE GRIT**, 2000 pounds, 20 bags, \$6.00; 1000 pounds, 10 bags, \$3.25; 500 pounds, 5 bags, \$1.75; 100 pounds, trial sample, 25 cts. Keystone Granite Dust, \$4 per ton. Circular free. Liberal discount to the trade. Keystone Granite Grit Works, Perkiomenville, Pa.



BIG MONEY IN EGGS

if you can only get enough of them at the lowest cost. **GREEN CUT BONE** solves the problem. It doubles the egg product. It makes hens lay in the dead of winter when eggs are worth money. It keeps the hen laying. It makes chicks grow fast and mature early, and makes early layers of the pullets.

MANN'S NEW BONE CUTTERS

prepare bone in the best way. Cut fast, run easy, last long. Mann's Clover Cutters, Granite Crystal Grit and Swinging Feed Trays are all necessary to highest success. Cash or installments. Illustrated catalogue sent Free. **F. W. MANN CO., Box 67, MILFORD, MASS.**



Do You Like Lice?

Why do you let them pester your fowls and eat up your profits? There's no need of your being bothered with insects of any kind.

LEE'S LICE KILLER

will settle the trouble in a jiffy's time. We don't ask you to take our word for it. Send to our Omaha office for free sample. Try it before you buy it. What fairer proposition can you ask?

LEE'S LICE KILLER kills lice and mites on poultry and hogs. Price \$1 per gal, 35c per quart. We pay freight on all \$5 orders—\$6 orders west of Denver. **LEE'S ROUP AND CHOLERA CURE** never fails. 50c postpaid by mail. Sample free. Send for free catalog of all poultry and stock supplies. It will save you money.

GEO. H. LEE, Omaha, Neb., or 8 Park Place, New York City.

Alma Cole Pickering, in *Poultry Success*, tells how she lost 147 promising, full-fledged, plump chicks out of 350, by being poisoned from eating toad stools. The editor of *Poultry Success* has had his "side-burns" removed, and thus made a wonderful change in appearance. You would hardly know him. Kentucky *Poultry Journal* says so many people enter the poultry business, even on a small scale, under the impression that all they have to do is to press the button and the hen does the rest.

Morgan Bates says a beginner should not start in on "the extensive plan." It is a mistake to think that because a small flock is doing well a large flock will necessarily do better. Experience is essential to success in any business, and experience must be acquired by degrees.

Morgan Bates, in *American Poultry Journal*, is writing a series of papers on "Why Poultry Pays, and How to Make it Pay." Mr. Morgan says the class of poultrymen that are supplying the markets with eggs and poultry are the bulwark of the poultry industry of the nation.

Fifty fowls, well cared for, will pay you more profit than 500 half cared for, says Maine *Farmer*. When you can manage a flock of 50 adult fowls so as to get the greatest possible profit from them, then is the time to increase the size of the flock; and you can keep on increasing until you have as many as you can manage profitably, whether the number be 500 or 5,000.

A man must have a love for his work in order to succeed in the poultry business, says *Farmers' Voice*. This is much more important than a love for chickens. The indolent man cannot succeed at any calling for diligence and individual exertion, and poultry keeping is that kind of business. The prosperity of 99 people out of 100 is reward of hard work, and these people all love work.

In the chicken business, as in every other, the knowledge of yesterday is not sufficient for today, says *Poultry Success*. With the new day comes new ideas; new experiments, new lessons. We are constantly learning something, and the man who reaches a point where he is so sure he knows it all that he ceases making any attempt to learn, becomes a back number in just about twenty-four hours. The great difficulty with many who start into rearing poultry for profit is that they want to earn big profits from the start, says Morgan Bates, in *American Poultry Journal*. If this does not materialize, they become discouraged. Many also start with a meagre capital, forgetting that time means expense, and a small amount will not suffice, should unseen delays occur. Capital, good judgment and determination to succeed are the essential qualifications.

Some people manage or conduct their poultry business in the same slipshod, careless kind of a manner that they do their other business and expect good returns. They do not invest anything, neither putting money nor effort into the venture. How can

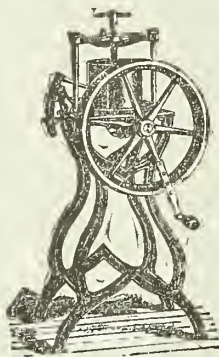
we expect to make money from a business in which we are not willing to invest our money and brains? Nothing from nothing leaves nothing, says Henry Trafford, in *American Poultry Journal*.

"Go slow and learn to paddle." This, says Henry Trafford, in *American Poultry Journal*, is a very common maxim, but is a good one. There is a great deal of meaning wrapped up in these few words, and they should be the watchwords of every amateur poultryman. Learn your business as you go along. Invest slowly and surely. Make sure of your footing step by step. Don't try to step to the top of the ladder at one step. If you do you will most assuredly make a mistake.

Because you have failed, or because you know of others that have failed, is no argument that the poultry business is a failure. There are lots of people who never make a success of anything they undertake. We know of a poul-

The Best Hen Food

is green cut bone—five times better than wheat. It doubles the laying of a flock. A few ounces fed daily often changes loss to profit. The only safe means of preparing it is the



**STEARNS
Bone Cutter**
(Formerly Webster & Hannum).

It acts on milling principle, and makes a mealy product, whereas *scraping* machines make splinters often fatal to chicks and pullets.

The Stearns runs easiest, is self-feeding, self-regulating, never clogs, even when fed with meat, gristle or corn. It won the highest and only awards at World's Fair, Chicago, and at National Export Exposition at Philadelphia.

FREE Send for our book "How to Make Poultry Pay," and catalogue of Cutters, Grit Crushers, Clover Cutters and other Poultry Yard accessories.

E. C. STEARNS & CO., Box 6, Syracuse, N. Y.

WHITE Wyandottes ONLY.

ENTIRE time given to breeding for eggs and meat. Large, vigorous February and March cockerels, from unrelated matings, above standard weight.

We Have Some Beauties at \$2 and \$3.
Yearling Parents of above, \$2.

We will try to please.
HOMESTEAD POULTRY FARM, Hopkinton, Mass.

try editor that time and again has made attempts to establish a profitable poultry yard, and always to meet with a loss. We heard him say, confidentially, that the poultry business was a failure. Does that make it so? Work out your own salvation, and never mind what the croakers have to say.

Here's good logic by the *Reliable Poultry Journal*: The fact is, that in 99 cases out of 100—we might say in 999 cases out of 1,000—the men who build up solid successes in any line of business begin at the bottom, learn as they go, lay up stone by stone, until finally other men point to them and say, "They have struck it rich." Success in the poultry business is won in the same way, almost invariably. The notable successes among poultrymen today represent men who started on a moderate scale and won their way step by step, through patient effort, despite many obstacles.

R. G. F. Candage, the President of the Farmers' National Congress, recognized in his opening speech that a large portion of American prosperity is due to the industrious American hen. He demonstrated by statistical proofs that the energetic biddies of the United States, through habits of early rising and by attending strictly to business seven days in the week, annually lay \$100,000,000 worth of eggs. But this is not all. They rear families that eventually go on the markets as roasters and broilers, and this increase, Mr. Candage says, has in addition a total value of \$40,000,000.

Two hundred hens will make a farmer as much clear money during the coming Winter as five good cows, says the Cincinnati *Weekly Gazette*. And it will not take half as much food to keep them as will be required for the cows. This does not mean that any farmer who will give himself the necessary schooling can safely figure on getting such returns from 200 hens as we have named every Winter. We are acquainted with a good many farmers who, it seems to us, could make use of this money, and it strikes us as one of the strangest things in

BARRED ROCK Cockerels.

Best, \$1 each; younger, 75 cents each.
FROM GOOD LAYING STRAIN. WOODWARD M.
POFFENBERGER, Bakersville, Wash. Co., Maryland.

NIAGARA FARM

WHITE WYANDOTTES and
MAMMOTH PEKIN DUCKS
are hard to beat. BREEDERS, yearlings or
young, \$1.50 each.

All kinds of Poultry Supplies

Niagara Poultry Food contains Cut Clover and best quality Beef Scrap. No green food, bone or meat necessary if you use our Food. Price \$1.50 per 100 pounds. Circular and samples free. Write us.
W. R. CURTISS & CO., Ransomville, N. Y.

Lenola Poultry Yards. Barred Ply. Rocks, Pekin Ducks.

Bred on practical lines from pedigree layers. Bred and selected for practical purposes, from strong, vigorous stock. This season's breeding stock for sale now. April-hatched Cockerels and Pullets for sale in the Fall. Satisfaction guaranteed.
WM. WATMORE, Post Office, Moorestown, N. J.

the world why they don't reach out for it and put it in their pockets.

Editor Robinson, of *Farm-Poultry*, thinks we have made a mistake in the caution we gave in a back issue: "Beware of volunteered advice," and says: "What is a poultry paper good for that does not volunteer advice? A FEW HENS certainly gives lots of it—good advice, too. Perhaps, though, it is only the individual who volunteers advice that is meant. Even then it is not a bad idea to consider where it comes from." For Editor Robinson's benefit, we wish to say that by "volunteered advice" we have no reference to advice that is paid for. Advice given by A FEW HENS or any publication is advice paid for by the subscribers; but the obnoxious volunteered advice to which we refer is advice that comes from every "Smart Alec" who visits your plant. They will tell you just what you must do, and yet they themselves are a failure at everything they undertake. Beware of such teachings.

"I should like to help farmers who are getting small returns from their farms to increase their income," says Waldo F. Brown, in *Country Gentleman*. "There are scores of farmers in every county to whom a cash increase of \$100 or \$200 would seem almost like a little fortune, and it would keep them from running into debt; and I do not know any surer way that they could get this than by keeping 100 or 200 fowls. For six or seven months of the year less than 30 minutes a day would be all the time required, and for the months when the young ones were to be cared for about twice this time. What can you do that will pay you better?" (We doubt if Mr. Brown or any other person could attend to the wants of 200 hens inside of two hours a day, and double the amount during hatching season. On a 200-hen farm a man can find plenty of work to occupy him the full day, and every day in the year.—EDITOR).

A writer in *Practical Farmer* gives the following for trapping minks, skunks, weasels, etc.: Minks, weasels, skunks, etc., often visit the poultry house and in one night destroy from 6 to 20 fowls. The best way to capture minks is with a steel trap properly concealed and baited with a bird or fish. Minks travel several miles to get in a poultry yard or house. If there is a pond or stream near the house it is best to trap them along the place of their natural haunts. Take the fat from some fish and fry it out and pour it in a bottle. Leave the cork out and expose it until the oil decays and becomes very strong. A few drops of this placed upon any bait will attract a mink a long distance. Cover the trap with fine leaves or break up coarse leaves so that the jaws of the trap will not be filled up when it springs. If trapping the minks near the water it is best to set the trap under the water and make a fence with weeds so as to compel it to come out at the place where the trap is set.

STANDARD BRED S. C. Brown Leghorns.
Prices low. Need room for winter.
FRANK M. STONE, Mutual, Ohio.

Ducks and Ducklings.

There is No More Profitable Branch of the Poultry Business than Duck Culture, When One is Properly Fitted for the Work—There is no Branch that Will Prove Disastrous More Quickly When in the Hands of a Novice Who is Not Adapted for the Work.

Indian Runners are small ducks. Beef scraps start the pin feathers. The Pekin duck should be dry picked. Ducks pick better when killed at ten weeks of age. A dry picked bird holds its color better than one that is scalded. The average weight of the Indian Runner duck is four pounds. Green food should compose nearly one-fourth of the whole food. A. J. Hallock had an Indian Runner duck that laid 136 eggs in 142 days. Scalded birds appear puffy and are likely to turn black by exposure to the air.

White duck feathers sell for 37 to 39 cents per pound; colored ones 17 to 23 cents.

After a duck gets its age, it is rather deceptive as to weight, as it is then solid and fat.

In New England scalded ducks could not be sold unless there was a shortage in the market.

In the South only 3 cents apiece is paid for picking, while in the North from 6 to 8 cents is the charge.

English breeders claim that an Indian Runner duck at 8 years old will lay as many eggs as a yearling duck.

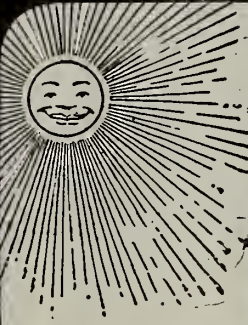
In the West and in New York State, ducks are scalded quite extensively, but in the East they are dry picked.

Indian Runners are to the duck family, in egg production, what the Mediterranean breed is to the poultry world.

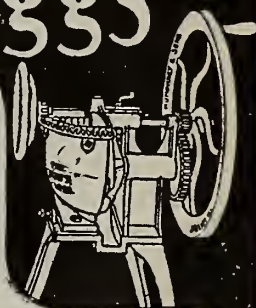
Thos. H. Mills, in the *Kentucky Poultry Journal*, says the Indian Runner ducks are "far beyond his fondest hopes."

[Continued on page 75.]

You Want Fertile Eggs



but fertility counts for little if the chick hasn't sufficient vitality to get out of the shell, and stand the trials of chickhood. Fertility and Vitality depend very largely upon the feeding ration. Cut green bone promotes both. Green bone is easily and rapidly cut by the



HUMPHREY GREEN BONE and VEGETABLE Cutter.

No fuss and bother about it. No hacking with an axe nor packing in a cylinder. You finish the job with a Humphrey before you get started with other types of machines. Sold on a positive guarantee to cut more bone, in less time with less labor than any other machine made. Your money back if you are not wholly satisfied. It's a rapid vegetable cutter, too. Send for free catalogue (handsomest of the season) and egg record book.

Humphrey & Sons, Box 23, Joliet, Ills.

WINTER EGGS HOW TO GET THEM.

Selection, Care and Food of Laying Hens.

The above is the title of a new book. The latest in the Farm-Poultry series; PRICE 25 cts.

In many respects it will be the most valuable book we have ever published, because it treats of one subject only, of which every poultry raiser, large or small, wants to know all that is new, or best, namely, how to get the most eggs in winter when prices are high.

THE BOOK will be sent postpaid on receipt of 25 cents in cash or postage stamps; or we will send the book and a year's subscription to Farm-Poultry both for \$1.

SPECIAL OFFER.

FARM-POULTRY,	Semi Monthly one year	- - -	\$1.00
A FEW HENS,	Monthly, " "	- - -	.25
WINTER EGGS,	HOW TO GET THEM.	- - -	.25

ALL THREE FOR \$1.10.

Send all orders to us with cash, P. O. or Express money order.

FARM-POULTRY PUB. CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

A FEW HENS.

EDITED BY

MICHAEL K. BOYER,

Hammonton, N. J.

Published Once a Month.

Sample Copy Free.

Price, Monthly, Three Cents.

By the Year, Twenty-Five Cents.

Send all orders to

I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.,
PUBLISHERS.

ADVERTISING RATE:

The rate per agate line is 15 cents each insertion; or 10 cents per line if order is for six months or more. About seven ordinary words make one line. There are fourteen lines in each inch space, single column.

Entered at the Post-Office at Boston, Mass., as second-class matter, by I. S. Johnson & Co., Publishers, 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

EDITORIAL.

Are You Ready? Fall is here—and when this is read will be nearly gone.

Have you taken advantage of the season and planted your advertisement? If you have you are fortunate; if you have not you have missed many sales that you might have had. It is not too late yet to get in the ring. The elections delayed the Fall trade, and now that the elections are over we look for a big Winter and Spring demand.

Yes, thank goodness, the election is over, and the people have time again to get down to business. Probably you are disappointed in the result and probably you are rejoicing. If disappointed, you may be picturing all sorts of calamities, troubles and what not. Don't do it. Get down to business. Things are not near as bad as you may think. Now this is no argument in support of the party in power, for this editorial is written on the second day of November, when it is impossible to foretell the result.

But to business. If you are prepared to handle a big trade you should send in your contract at once. A FEW HENS is a strictly business venture. It has the largest circle of actual buyers of any similar publication—proof of which is seen in the annual return of its advertisers.

Here is some evidence:

Wm. C. King, proprietor of the Homestead Poultry Farm, Hopkinton, Mass., writes:

"I have been reading your little 'tip-topper' for several years, and have also been using its advertising columns for some time with good success. In fact, have made more direct sales from it than all other papers combined."

H. Melville Smith, South Orange, N. J., writes:

"I have come to the conclusion that A FEW HENS is a pretty good medium by which to reach the people. I advertised a bone mill in October issue; the paper reached me on the 18th and on the 22d the mill was sold and shipped. Since that time I have had three other chances to dispose of it. And further, the sale of the mill resulted in my getting a new subscriber for the paper. A FEW HENS is a bright, snappy little paper, one of the best—and for me the

best—poultry paper with which I am acquainted."

Just What They Think. A subscriber living in Jersey City, N. J., who does not give his name: "My opinion of A FEW HENS is that it is like McKinley—all right. I have read it from the start and hope to keep it up 40 years more. If its advice be taken the 'full dinner pail' question is solved."

Another anonymous subscriber from Ontario, Canada: "Have been taking A FEW HENS for two years now and find it indispensable in poultry for profit. It grows better every month. Long may it live."

Chas. W. Scranton, New Haven, Conn.: "When I wrote you before I did not want to commence my letter with the usual 'taffy' that I was a subscriber to your valuable journal and I valued it highly, etc. But I do now want to say that of all the poultry papers I receive I think yours the best. A man does not have time to wade through two or three columns to find what he wants."

L. J. Ryerson, Pompton Plains, N. J.: "I am more than pleased with your policy and think you cannot too strongly advocate the paramount importance of breeding fowls for their egg record before, above and over every other consideration. I cannot conceive how a poultry fowl can be valuable for any other cause."

Egg Records. F. T. Estes, proprietor of King Phillip Poultry Farm Warren, R. I., sends the following report for the month of September:

"Fifty-five layers; loss of 15. One pullet laid 7 eggs, giving her an average of 7 for the month; 36 year-old hens laid 396 eggs, average 10.37; 18 two-year olds laid 191 eggs, average 10.61; odd eggs 16. Total 610, or a daily average of 20.3.

"Average per hen per day, 37. Highest number per day, 28 eggs; lowest, 13 eggs. Highest individual record belongs to No. 121, she having laid 24 eggs. Eleven hens laid 15 eggs or over.

"The 60 hens have a combined record of 6,213 eggs since January 1, 1900, or as a flock an average of 103 1-2 eggs each.

"In reading the record of Mr. Freeman's White Wyandotte hen in the second column on page 34 of September issue of A FEW HENS, I became interested to compare my best layer No. 162 therewith. No. 162 laid 168 eggs in 215 days, or an average of .781 eggs per day, while Mr. Freeman's hen laid 209 eggs in 277 days, or an average of .754 eggs per day.

"Also Dr. H. S. Buffum, on page 44 of same issue, compares the 11 best layers on A FEW HENS' Experimental Farm with his best layers, and finds 171 eggs in his favor for the months of March, April, May and June. The 11 best layers on King Phillip Poultry Farm during those same months laid 896 eggs, or 104 more than those of Dr. Buffum.

"I thank A FEW HENS for thus being able to compare my flock with those of others who know what they are doing by the use of trap nests,"

P. F. Daniel, Atlanta, Ga., writes:

"I must thank the publishers for sending me a sample copy of A FEW HENS. I at once saw that it was the best paper for me; better than any I had ever seen. Every issue seems to be growing better. It is far superior to any I take, and I take quite a few.

"I have been breeding poultry for several years principally for my own pleasure and table use. January 1st I had 20 pullets and one hen (White and Barred Plymouth Rocks), and these up to July 1st had laid 2,374 eggs."

Wm. C. King, proprietor of the Homestead Poultry Farm, Hopkinton, Mass., writes:

"I enclose a few snap-shots taken on our farm where White Wyandottes have exclusive possession. I am raising a few Rhode Island Reds as a trial, and must say they show up very well so far.

"Speaking of record breakers, I have a Wh. Wyandotte yearling, late hatched, who laid her first egg February 2d. In 45 consecutive days she had laid 45 eggs. During this time she laid (at three different times) two perfect eggs in one day, and skipping either the day before or the day after each feat. She now has 164 eggs to her credit to date (October 6) and is still laying, though half through molting. I use the Successful trap nest and find it works admirably.

"I have several other layers which have twice laid two eggs in one day, and among them three have twice performed this feat.

"All my chicks are raised in Peep-o'-Day brooders, and have unlimited range until Fall, when they are yarded and separated.

"My houses consist of six 20 x 10, one 50 x 10, and I am now completing a 60 foot house with walk at the back, built on the combination plan of scratching shed and roosting house.

"Thanking you for the good I am always able to extract from A FEW HENS, I remain, etc."

The snap-shots enclosed are eight fine photos of scenes on the farm, as follows:

"Teddy Roosevelt, who knows where the fowls belong and can put them there," is the portrait of Mr. King and his fine Collie dog Teddy.

"One of the flocks of early pullets" shows a scene at feeding time, Mr. King standing with pail in hand among a large flock of finely matured Wyandotte pullets.

"A few yards of youngsters" displays a fine collection of different ages, and at the end of the runs faithful Teddy seems to be enjoying the sight.

"What is it?" is the likeness of a runt without feathers looking like anything but a chick.

"One of the caretakers of little chicks" is the picture of a faithful cat, almost the image of our best cat on A FEW HENS' farm.

"A 4 1-2 month old cockerel" gives promise to be a grand bird when fully matured.

"Pure White" an early cockerel" shows that Mr. King has White Wyandotte stock that is worth having.

"One of the yards of early cockerels" is sufficient advertisement that Mr. King can furnish stock that will be an improvement to any flock,

Mr. King is advertising his Homestead Poultry Farm Stock in A FEW HENS, and our readers should look it up.

Poultry The Sprague Commission Co., 218 South Water Street, Chicago, Ills., have just issued their fourth annual report of the poultry crop in the West. The conclusions arrived at and given below were compiled from inquiries sent throughout Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Wisconsin, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota and the Dakotas, making a complete and comprehensive report.

This year's crop of poultry indicates, from all the reports received, a smaller supply of ducks and geese, about an average supply of chickens, and a larger supply of turkeys than in 1899. Weather conditions have a great deal to do with the production of poultry, and as the Spring was very wet in some sections and dry in others, the crop was somewhat irregular, according to the different conditions. Not alone did dry and wet weather affect poultry raising, but the extreme hot weather throughout some parts of the country was an important factor, as the reports indicate that the eggs were much affected and the fertility impaired so that the hatching of young stock was below that of other years, but the quantity of eggs put out to hatch exceeded that in former years in the case of turkeys and chickens which made up for the loss, otherwise there would have been a much larger quantity raised. Of ducks and geese the supply is smaller. In the Southern States—Tennessee and Kentucky—the crop is far below an average, estimated fully 30 per cent. less, and this was due to the partial failure of the grain crops in 1899 and high prices locally for feed.

The crop of turkeys will no doubt be heavier this year than last, an increase of 10 to 15 per cent., and will be nearer a full crop than in any of the three years preceding. High prices acted as an incentive for farmers to increase their turkey crop. The season on the whole has been a little more favorable, and then more turkeys were carried over on which to build up a larger crop. Advances, however, again indicate that the crop in many sections will be late.

As compared with last year's crop, the supply of chickens will hardly vary much, possibly they will be smaller on account of the unfertiliness of the eggs and the small supply in the Southern States. It would, perhaps, be fair to place the crop of 1900 at about 100 per cent. as compared with last year. Prices for eggs were not so high during the early part of the season as last year, and this influenced farmers to give more eggs to the hens for hatching purposes, but unfavorable causes brought about unfavorable results, and a great many eggs proved worthless. High prices for chickens in 1899 also induced farmers to market rather closely, and there were not so many chickens left over for hatching purposes.

The duck crop of 1900 bids fair to be 20 per cent. short of last year. This may be going to extremes, but nearly all reports indicate a falling off, and to place the crop at 80, as compared with

last year, may not be out of the way. The crop of 1898 was very large, way above the average of previous years, and for two years there has been an inclination to shut off on the raising of ducks, and it is likely this will be noticed during the marketing of the present crop, and that more satisfactory prices will prevail than in the past.

In nearly all instances, the reports note a further shrinkage in the supply of geese, and the crop is estimated at 10 per cent. less than last year, or about 80 as compared with two years ago. There was a decrease of about 10 per cent. last year, making about 20 per cent. less than in 1898, when there was about a full average crop.

Good "Winter Eggs; How to Get Books. Them," is a new book written by John H. Robinson, editor of *Farm-Poultry*. It is devoted to the selection, care and food of laying hens. Price 25 cents.

"Winter Eggs" tells how to begin with pullets; buying pullets; old hens as layers; getting ready for Winter; how much room per hen; how many hens in a flock; how to prevent colds; feeding fowls; A. F. Hunter's method; C. H. Wyckoff's method; cooked vs. uncooked mash; C. I. Nesmith's method; the evening mash; E. O. Roessle's method; the author's method; hot or cold mash; the feeder must use judgment; adjusting the ration; good rations provide variety; grit essential; about exercise; how much to feed; M. K. Boyer's method; S. B. Patton's method; Obe Lash's method; general remarks on care of laying hens.

This book should be in every poultry library. Sent postpaid on receipt of

price by addressing either the publishers, I. S. Johnson & Co., 22 Custom House Street, Boston, Mass., or Michael K. Boyer, editor A FEW HENS, Ham-monton, N. J.

The wisdom of many writers is made available for every worker in "Poultry Craft," by John H. Robinson, a new book on practical poultry keeping; finely illustrated.

The most complete, concise, and convenient work of its kind published. The only book which treats the subject systematically and thoroughly. A guide book for beginners, a text book for learners, a reference book for working poultrymen and women.

The book is devoted to poultry keeping and poultry keepers; location; situation; poultry houses and yards; poultry fixtures; description of breeds; choosing a variety; buying stock; foods and feeding; science in poultry feeding; Trap Nest Plans 15 cts. H. M. Doty, Chatnam, N. Y.

BOYER likes White Ply. Rocks. I sell good ones. H. D. Hopkins, Montpelier, Vt.

Thoroughbred Buff Leghorns, cockerels, pullets, \$1 and \$2. Some solid Buff. 100-egg Monitor Incubator cheap. Arthur P. Spiller, Beverly, Mass.

GINSENG—Book all about it 4c. Tells how to grow this great money maker. Write to-day. AMERICAN GINSENG GARDENS, Rose Hill, N. Y.

LIGHT BRAHMAS. Highest standard—Best show record. Eggs \$3 a sitting. Selected young birds of superior merit at fair prices for fine specimens. ROBERT HAMILTON, Ben-Avon, Pa.

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50 WHITE WYANDOTTE COCKERELS at \$2 each; also pairs, trios and pens. All have rich yellow legs and beaks, small combs, and are good shape. Are bred from great layers. Order at once. STEVENS & CO., Wilson, N. Y.

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is a high grade incubator at a low price. Thousands in use. California red-wood cases and copper tank incubators at the price others ask for common pine and galvanized iron. Our brooder broods as well as our hatcher hatches. Handsome catalog giving plans for practical poultry houses, yards, etc., free. Write to-day. You need it in your poultry business.

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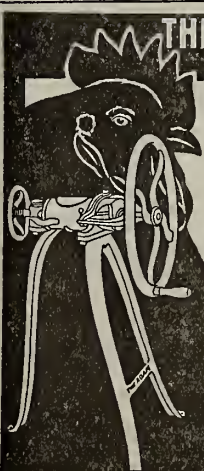
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—and indeed the only one which is equipped with ball bearings. That's why it runs so easily. It cuts on the shear plate principle. No gouging, crushing or breaking of bone into pieces or dangerous bone splinters.

Leaves a Shaving of Bone,

fine and easily consumed by fowl or chick. Easiest to clean — cleans itself. Feeds at will of operator. Strong and durable. Large capacity. Made in various sizes for hand and power. Write for our illustrated Catalogue No. 1, prices, etc.

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egg production; principles of breeding; selection and care of breeding stock; hatching and rearing chicks; selling poultry and eggs; exhibiting poultry; diseases, parasites and enemies of fowls; bantams; turkeys; ducks; geese; etc.

A book that is a book. Not a cheap pamphlet, but a substantial, handsome volume. Each page measures 5 3-4 x 9; pages, 272; binding, blue cloth, silver stamping. Printed on fine paper. Ninety-five appropriate illustrations, correct representations of all prominent varieties of fowls, practical buildings, coops, nest-boxes, feed-troughs.

Price, postpaid, \$2.00. I. S. Johnson & Co., 22 Custom House Street, Boston, Mass. Orders can be sent to Michael K. Boyer, Hammononton, N. J.

"Biggle Poultry Book" is not only one of the neatest, but one of the most practical works on poultry culture. The matter is "boiled down," same as the contents of A FEW HENS, and all matters are properly classified.

A feature of the book is 16 colored plates made from life from birds in the yards of breeders, or on exhibition at the poultry shows, by Louis P. Graham, a young Philadelphia artist possessing a high order of talent. Besides there are 42 handsome engravings in half-tone and 61 other helpful illustrations of houses, nests, drinking vessels, etc.

Handsomely bound in cloth. Price 50 cents. Wilmer Atkinson Co., publishers, Philadelphia, Pa.

Rhode Island Reds. A standard is about being formulated for the guidance of breeders of the Rhode Island Reds, and the suggestions as sent out by a committee shows that the utility qualities of the breed are not to be hampered, but instead those qualities are to be increased. The committee is composed of Samuel Cushman, Edward M. Collins, Luther Robbins, Rowland G. Buffington and Edward S. Macomber.

In the report the committee says: "We have endeavored, first to make uniform and more firmly establish the most important characteristics of the Rhode Island Red fowl *the typical and most useful shape*, and to lay such stress on this feature as shall prevent all future departure from it. Second, to preserve the natural Rhode Island Red color and prevent the adoption of an artificial standard for color, that will call for the same color in both sexes and result in the necessity of a double mating system which has been such a curse to other breeds. Therefore we have called attention to the fact that the females are naturally much lighter and less striking in color and that the breed takes its name from the male. We also wish to prevent color of plumage ever becoming the most sought after feature, to the neglect of shape, size or other useful qualities.

"They will also give the uninformed some idea of the comparative value of the birds they buy or breed. Common defects to be avoided and the comparative value of under color to surface color are given for the same reasons. It is easy to get nice red birds with dark

slate under color and easier to get reddish buff birds with buff under color. The matter of dark pin feathers in dressed birds, however, must not be ignored. Therefore the combination is held up as our ideal."

There is a lot of good, common sense in those paragraphs, and followed on that line there will be more uniformity in the breed without crippling the excellent practical qualities of the breed.

Briefly stated, the standard presented by the committee is as follows:

Shape and carriage of body or correct type is the most important consideration. A specimen of the proper type with only fair color should always be given preference in show room over one having fine color but of the wrong type.

Body should be long, wide and deep (especially long in keel and broad in chest, shoulders and back) and well rounded, compact and free from angular projections if dressed for market. Neck moderately short and slightly curved. Thighs and shanks shorter and less coarse in bone than in any other variety of the American class.

STAR INCUBATORS

are the best, by far the best. From a scientific point of view they are the most intelligently built for perfect heating, regulating and ventilating. From a practical point of view, they are best, because they hatch more and stronger chicks. We can't tell just **why** here; but send for our catalogue. It will interest you.

STAR INCUBATOR CO.,
22 Church St., Bound Brook, N. J.

* FOR SALE. *

One Pratt Hot Water Heater, No. 2, with or without piping; also a 600-egg Monarch for \$20.00; both in good order. For a low price on Heater write to FRED S. PIERCE, East Orleans, Mass.

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Best

PINE TREE... FARM STOCK.

Young, vigorous, healthy, high-scoring, prize-winning. 23 varieties. Send for big catalog. Eggs by sitting or 100 and guaranteed.

D. A. MOUNT,
Box O. Jamesburg, N. J.
The Pine Tree Farm.

THE CUCKOO TRAP NEST

is the simplest and most reliable of any that have any just claim to accuracy.

\$3.00 for sample box, with farm right to make. Send for circular to

THE DUNLAP SUPPLY CO., Yardley, Pa.

B. L. MINORCAS

EXCLUSIVELY.

High class S. C. B. Minorcas, bred for 11 years for heavy laying and exhibition. Trap nests in all pens. Farm raised, strong and vigorous. These birds have high station, long back, deep bodies, large combs and lobes. Very fine color. Chicks hatched March, April and May. Pullets \$1 and \$2; cockerels \$2, \$3, \$5. Hens from spring breeding pen \$1 and \$2. MRS. GEO. E. MONROE, Box B, Dryden, N. Y. Member Am. B. Minorca Club.

Longer, wider and more plump in body than that of the accepted Plymouth Rock type, and much longer in keel, also with body carried less upright than in the modern Wyandotte. Neck shorter and more curved than that of the Plymouth Rock. Owing to their solid build they equal in weight other breeds of greater size.

Color of plumage should be considered as second in importance to shape of body, never should be placed first. That of the male is richer and deeper in color than the female, much more showy, striking and attractive. It is the male's plumage that gives the breed its name. That of the female is lighter and softer in color.

The head of the male is of medium size, fair width of skull and well carried up. The head of the female is the same but smaller.

The beak of both male and female are short, stout and moderately curved; red horn in color.

The eyes of both sexes are large and deep red, alike in color.

There are both single and rose comb varieties.

The necks are rather short, well arched.

The back of the male is apparently rather short, broad and flat at shoulders, the saddle being broad, full and rising with a slight concave sweep to the tail. In the female the back is apparently longer than in male, with greater breadth at shoulders and with just enough rise at saddle to produce a slight concave sweep to the tail.

The breast in both sexes is broad, deep and well developed.

The body in both sexes is deep, well rounded at sides, with long keel bone. Abdomen wide, not deep, well rounded, and full feathered.

The standard weight for cock is 7 1-2 pounds; hen, 6 pounds; cockerel, 6 1-2 pounds; pullet, 5 pounds.

Some males now reach 9 and 10 pounds, and hens 7 1-2 pounds. These may continue to be bred by some because desirable for a certain special purpose, but stock of the above weights make best early maturing all purpose fowl.

Hawkins' Barred Rocks, Duston's White Wyandottes. I have a limited number of birds from the 1900 matings of these noted breeders for sale. Prices reasonable. Write me. G. D. ELMER, Irving, Mass.

RED BELGIAN HARES \$1.50 up, according to quality. Good Does, bred to Victor, winner 1st New York, 1900, for sale cheap. Write us your wants. CURTISS & CO., Ransomville, N. Y.

What a DOLLAR will Do.

1 Box Lambert's Death to Lice, 20 lbs. Oyster Shells, 1 Yearly Egg Record, 10 lbs. Rock Grit, 5 lbs. Granulated Bone, 10 lbs. Meat Meal, 64-page Poultry Book, 10 Climax Leg Bands, 5 lbs. Ground Brick, Formula how to make Liquid Lice Paint, Poultry Industry, the People's Poultry Paper, Illustrated. 16 to 20 pages, monthly, one year. This collection worth \$2. Sent you by freight for only \$1. Money back if we don't please. W. S. GALLATIN & SON, York, Pa.

RABBITS

The only low-cost book on the Rabbit ever published to our knowledge, is "The Rabbit: How to Select, Breed and Manage the Rabbit and Belgian Hare, for Pleasure or Profit," by W. N. Richardson, a man of long experience with Rabbits. Third edition now ready, nicely illustrated, enlarged and much improved with breeders' directory. Price 25 cts. or with AMERICAN POULTRY ADVOCATE one year 40 cts. CLARENCE C. DEPUY, Publisher, Syracuse, N. Y.

New Fencing. There certainly have been decided improvements made in poultry fencing during the past ten years. While the old style mesh is still being used on many plants, the newer styles that have of late years been placed upon the market are so much neater in appearance, and at the same time more easily erected. One great fault with the old style mesh is that despite the greatest care, it will at times bag and sag, unless there is a top and bottom rail. The top rail is never advisable, as it gives the fowls a dark object to fly at.

On A FEW HENS' Experimental Farm we have three kinds of fencing, viz., the old style mesh, the M. M. S. fencing, and the Union Lock poultry fence. The M. M. S. is a big improvement over the old mesh, and is a very neat and durable fence, doing away with half the number of posts and at the same time hanging more even. The only objection we have to the M. M. S. is that the cables at the bottom are not close enough, allowing small chicks to go through.

The latest style fence on the market now is the Union Lock fence, which we are now using. It has many features that we do not find in the others. Every horizontal line is a cable; the pickets are three inches apart, and the cables 1 1/4 inches apart at the bottom. This keeps the small chicks from going through.

The horizontal lines of this fence are all composed of two No. 20 galvanized steel wires twisted together.

Beginning at the bottom the first seven cables are 1 1/4 inches apart, the next three cables are 1 1/2 inches apart, then six cables two inches apart, and all above that four inches apart. This gives a mesh of 1 1/4 x 3 inches at the bottom where it is needed for small chicks; and above two feet, where fowls can only reach when on the wing, the mesh is 3 x 4 inches.

The pickets are No. 19 galvanized steel wires and are three inches apart. The picket is fastened to the cables with the Union Lock.

On account of the picket being at right angles to the cables, this fence will fit any unevenness of the ground without cutting, which is an advantage not possessed by any diamond mesh netting or diagonal mesh fencing.

As all of the cables are of the same length and run the whole length of the fabric, every part can be stretched perfectly. The fence is amply strong, as the breaking strain of a No. 20 two-wire cable is 192 pounds, and there are ten cables in the first foot of fence.

Because of its strength and construction, this fence requires no top or bottom rail and no more posts than the ordinary woven wire stock fence, or about one-half the number needed for poultry netting.

The fencing is on sale at the following poultry supply houses, where also circulars and particulars can be had: Jos. Breck & Sons, Boston, Mass.; Excelsior Wire and Poultry Supply Co., 28 Vesey Street, New York City; and Johnson & Stokes, Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Sharpless Cream Separators—Profitable Dairying.

DUCKS AND DUCKLINGS.—[Continued.]

Too often the health of the young bird is injured by the improper feeding of the mother bird during the laying season.

It is claimed that in flavor, the Indian Runner egg tastes much like a hen egg, and is not strong like an ordinary duck egg.

Green ducks are shipped with heads on and undrawn. They are picked down one-half of the neck and to the first wing joint.

Indian Runner ducks came originally from India, hence the name "Indian;" and "Runner" from their way of running instead of walking.

The Muscovy duck has to be from 2 to 4 weeks older than the Pekin before it can be dressed, and is sometimes 4 months old when killed.

Mr. Pollard says one great drawback with ducks is that the shrinkage is so great as compared with other poultry that it seems a high-priced meat.

To meet with the best success, the duck business should be conducted by artificial methods, as hens will not sit in time to command the high Spring prices.

Ducks that have had very little beef scraps will pick very nicely at 12 or 13 weeks; when fed beef scraps the pin feathers start quite freely at 10 or 11 weeks.

The first essential is to start with good breeding stock. Birds that have been inbred until their constitutions are completely debilitated are in no condition for reproduction.

The lowest prices in the duck market are from the first of July to the first of September, and from September to November the price always goes up from 2 to 5 cents a pound.

WHITE P. ROCKS

Bred for Utility and Exhibition. Leaders in P. P. Egg contest. Stock on approval. A few cockerels at \$2.00 and up. Winners at Hagerstown, Pittsburg, Danbury and Torrington.

FREDRICK HOERLE, Torrington, Conn.

TERMS—SAME AS RENT.

SMALL POULTRY PLANT, about 3 acres, hen houses, barn, out buildings, excellent two-story house, fruit trees, etc. In Hammonton. Price \$1200. Will be sold to a good party on terms same as rent. MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammonton, N. J.

Closing Out PIT GAMES.

One cock, one year old, \$2.50; Hens, one and two years' old, \$1.00 each; trio young fowl, \$2.00; young cockerels, \$1.00 each.

C. G. BAXTER & SON, Merchantville, N. J.

HOLMES' SPECIAL Condition Powder FOR POULTRY.

This powder is carefully prepared on modern scientific principles, is sterling in quality, containing nothing that is injurious or objectionable. It supplies all of the spicy, peppery ingredients which nature demands and must be provided to become successful with growing, molting and laying fowl. Editor Collingwood, of Rural New-Yorker, writes nearly a column and a half in regard to it. It increased his egg yield from one a day to sixteen in twelve days. It excels all others.

For a short time only, I will sell one can, 20 cents; by mail, postpaid, 30 cents; two cans, 35 cents; by mail, postpaid, 55 cents; seven cans, f. o. b., Wethersfield, \$1.00. Limited. Address,

H. HOLMES, Wethersfield, Conn.

Dayton Bros., of Long Island, tested a flock of Indian Runner ducks beside an equal number of Pekins, with the following result in egg production—Runners, 192 eggs per year; Pekins, 112 eggs.

Ducks may be exported to England, but are not in such demand in the markets there as chickens. A cross between the Pekin and Aylesbury is the favorite and brings the best price, which is 8s, or \$2 per pair.

Strains that do not begin laying until March or April are more or less unprofitable, because when their young are ready for the knife the best of the Spring market is gone, and the grower must take a reduced price for his product.

When the natural grown product reaches the market you will find that artificially grown birds have had control of that market for two months or more, and that two months is worth more than all of the rest of the season put together.

Grit is absolutely necessary. It should not only be kept together with cracked oyster shells, in boxes constantly by them, but mixed also in their food. They must have something during their confinement in bad weather to enable them to assimilate their food.

The common way of fattening ducks would be to cut off the bran at eight weeks, says George H. Pollard, in *American Agriculturist*. He does

WYCKOFF strain S. C. White Leghorn cockerels, \$1.50 each. Write for prices of Belgian Hares. M. M. MAPES, Jefferson, Ohio.

SINGLE COMB White and Single Comb Brown Leghorns. Stock for sale. MR. and MRS. S. RIDER, Maryland, N. Y.

Pullets and Cockerels

BEAUTIES. May and June hatched thoroughbred White Wyandottes. Parents are from prize winners, very superior stock, a number scoring from 92 to 94 1-2 points. Exceptional quality and seldom offered at so low a figure. Pullets \$1.50; cockerels \$2.00. First orders, first choice. H. B. HALE, Trenton Junction, N. J.

A. F. PUTNEY, SOUTH NATICK, MASS.,

will sell six yearling breeders, with one unrelated cockerel, for \$10.00.

COCKERELS

that are healthy, vigorous and handsome. Bred for business from heavy layers, and are unsurpassed for table poultry. Prices \$2.00, \$3.00 and \$5.00 each.

STANDARD WHITE WYANDOTTES.

Poultry Marker.



With the Marker here illustrated, any form of mark may be adopted by punching the web between the toes. A complete record of chicks from different parties and strains can thus be kept, as well as to know your birds wherever they may be. It may save you money and a valuable bird. It costs, postpaid,

25 cts.

Send all orders to us.

FIVE MARKERS

SENT FOR \$1.00.

I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass.

not change the food from the time he begins to give them equal parts of bran and meal right up to the killing time, and so does not have the bother of getting the separate foods mixed. Green food is not given at all to the young ducks, unless they are intended for breeders, and then they are given only a moderate amount of green food. Quicker growth is obtained with beef scraps than with green food.

There is quite a demand for live ducks in all large cities, says the *American Agriculturist*. The Jewish population will not buy dead fowls of any kind. It is a part of their religion that the poultry should be killed by a rabbi. This makes a good market for many birds that would otherwise be worthless. The Chinese also buy quite a good many and pay very good prices. They perhaps consume quite as many as the Jewish trade. The Chinese and Jewish trade do not seem to be particular about quality, and a good many people ship to them the lame, halt and blind, and in that way are enabled to get rid of ducks that they otherwise could not dispose of.

Baltimore *Sun* says: "The origin of the Indian Runner ducks is unknown. They are said to have been introduced into England about 20 years ago. Some poultrymen who are raising this breed make great claim for them. They claim they will lay nearly 200 eggs per year. One breeder claims food comparison with Pekins average about as follows: Food required for 100 Pekins for one month, about 2,250 pounds; food for Indian Runner ducks, same number and for same period, 1,500 pounds. Time required to reach market size is given as 10 weeks for each breed named. Time to reach maturity, Pekins 6 to 9 months, Indians 4 to 5 months. The Pekins are the larger ducks."

James Rankin, in *Farm and Home*, gives this method of feeding: "For breeding birds, old or young, during the Fall, feed three parts wheat bran, one part crushed oat feed, one part cornmeal, five per cent. beef scraps, five per cent. grit, and all the green food they will eat in the shape of corn fodder cut fine, clover or oat fodder. Feed this mixture twice a day, all they will eat. For laying birds equal parts of wheat bran and cornmeal, twenty per cent. crushed oat feed, 10 per cent. boiled potatoes and turnips, fifteen per cent. clover rowen, green rye or refuse cabbage chopped fine, five per cent. grit. Feed twice a day all they will eat, with a lunch of corn and oats at noon. Keep grit and oyster shells constantly by them. I never cook food for ducks after they are a week old, but mix it with cold water."

COBURN'S

Barred Ply. Rocks

are high grade birds and are bred from known breeders and layers. They are high grade in both fancy and utility points. No slipshod methods in breeding, but carefully kept records. They are farm raised, in perfect health and would surely please you. Fine **COCKERELS** and **PULLETS** for sale in pairs, trios and pens. Also a few nice yearlings of both sexes. Satisfaction guaranteed. Circular free. **F. A. P. COBURN**, B, 759 Stevens Street, Lowell, Mass.

Pointers on Food and Feeding.

Nothing Will Spoil the Appetite of a Fowl so Quickly as Confining Her to One Diet the Year Round—Variety Tempts the Appetite, and a Good Appetite Means Profit.

Feed only the best.
Never go to extremes.
Clean the feed troughs.
Dirty water is not pure water.
Feed according to the appetite.
It will pay to own a root cutter.
Stale or sour food causes sickness.
Regularity is the keynote of success.
Throwing mash on the ground is a waste.
A change of food is the best regulator.
Fatty meat should not be fed laying hens.
Green bone is still the ideal meat ration.
Give the drinking vessels a good washing.
Food regulates the health and prosperity of hens.
Too highly stimulating food causes liver troubles.
The greedy hen is hurting herself and those around her.
Mangels make excellent green food for fowls in Winter.
Roots of all kinds can be fed cooked or raw, chopped fine.
It is said that carrots improve the color of the yolk of the egg.
Clover hay should not be omitted in the daily poultry ration during Winter.
Egg production is not measured so much by the quantity of food as the quality.
Bulky food is of great advantage to poultry, as it serves to promote digestion and health.
The *Australian Hen* says Millet seed, boiled till quite soft and mixed with the morning mash, provides a good change.

THE IDEAL TRAP NEST MONTHLY RECORD SHEETS 25 cts. per dozen; \$1.50 per 100. Editor Boyer writes: "That is the most complete affair I have yet seen; send me 100 copies." Editor Boyer also uses and recommends the **IDEAL TRAP NEST**. Literature free.
F. O. WELLCOME, Yarmouth, Maine.

UTILITY White Wyandotte COCKERELS.

Only a few at prices according to quality.

ROBERT ATKINS,
No. 26 West 15th Street, New York City.
Member National White Wyandotte Club.

Barred Plymouth Rocks.

Fine laying strain. Grand cockerels and pullets for sale at \$2 each. Big bargains. Order quick as supply is limited. **MICHAEL K. BOYER**, Hamonton, N. J.

Common field peas are an excellent egg producing food, owing to the large amount of nitrogenous substances contained in them.

An Oregon farmer says that he realized \$1.25 a bushel for his wheat by feeding it to hens, says *Rural New-Yorker*, while the grain was selling in the market for 53 cents a bushel.

The effect of meat rations was tested at West Virginia experiment station, where one pen of fowls received a ration largely of corn and other starchy grains, while another pen was fed partly on meat and fresh bone. The meat-fed fowls laid 7,555 eggs, while the grain-fed birds laid 3,431, or less than one-half as many as those receiving the nitrogenous ration. The eggs from the meat-fed fowls were larger, much firmer, rather better and produced far more vigorous chickens than those of the others. Both lots of fowls remained in a healthy, vigorous condition.

Questions Briefly Answered.

Condensed Replies to the Many Inquiries Received at This Office.

BROILERS AND ROASTERS.

C. E. S.: Yes, broilers can be raised successfully in outdoor brooders placed in an ordinary building. No heat is required aside from that in the brooders. Outdoor brooders are better for such a building than the indoor ones.

F. L. F.: Full particulars for killing, dry picking and generally preparing poultry for market, is given in the book "Broilers for Profit," which will be sent postpaid for 50 cents.

H. J. K.: The Rhode Island Reds is an excellent breed for raising broilers. From experiments we have tried, we believe them to be a close second to the Wyandotte breed in that particular.

M. N. B.: Short-legged breeds, as a rule, are the best for market purposes.

K. L. J.: We never tried to grow broilers from bantams, so cannot say if it can be profitably done or not.

A. S. D.: Game blood is excellent when infused in our American varieties for market purposes. It adds a rich flavor to the carcass.

200-Egg Incubator for \$12.

The simplicity of the Stahl incubators created a demand that forced the production to such great proportions it is now possible to offer a first-class 200-egg incubator for \$12. This new incubator is an enlargement of the famous

WOODEN HEN

recognized the most perfect small hatcher. This new incubator is thoroughly well made; is a marvel of simplicity, and so perfect in its working that it hatches every fertile egg. Write for anything you want to know about incubators. Send for the new free illustrated catalogue.

GEO. H. STAHL, Quincy, Ill.



T. R. E.: We do not believe that yellow-skinned fowls are any better for market purposes than white ones, but the common prejudice is for a yellow looking carcass.

DISEASES.

C. W. R.: We do not exactly believe that roup is hereditary, but where fowls are bred which have been apparently cured of roup, a weak constitution is the heritage of the offspring which may sooner or later lead on to roup. Fowls that are weakly constituted, are more susceptible to colds than those bred from strong, rugged parents, and this cold is apt to lead on to that dreaded disease.

R. T. Y.: Sore eyes, while one of the symptoms of roup, is not roup itself. Some seasons eye troubles in flocks becomes more or less common. Generally it starts with a weakness, finally resulting in the fowl going blind. When a weakness of the eyes is noticed, it is best to bathe the affected parts with water hot enough for you to bear your hands in it. Repeat the treatment daily until relieved. A one-grain quinine pill given each night for three nights in succession will act as a good tonic at the same time.

W. E. R.: The cause of hens dying during molt is generally due to general debility. It is only the strong fowls of the flock that safely pass through the ordeal. In other words, a "survival of the fittest."

E. R. T.: We have never given the so-called Douglas Mixture a trial. Rusty iron placed in the drinking water is about as good an iron tonic as one could wish.

O. P. B.: Overcrowded quarters, especially during the warmer months of the year causes more weakness among chicks and fowls than anything we know of.

FOOD AND FEEDING.

H. E.: It costs us \$1.20 a year to properly feed a fowl.

Our bill of fare for a dozen fowls is as follows: "Dump all kitchen scraps into an old pot and cook each evening; salt when cooking. In the morning heat up again. Scald one pint bran, one pint equal parts ground oats and cornmeal; mix with the scraps. Twice a week add a little Sheridan's Condition Powder, or charcoal and sulphur. Feed two quarts (less rather than more) to 12 hens. At noon feed one pint of wheat or oats scattered among some litter; at night one quart of wheat or oats, or (in Winter) cracked corn in litter, feeding the grains in regular rotation.

S. D. F.: We have tried the feeding of mash in the evening instead of morning, but do not like it for Winter feeding for several reasons, viz., a warm mash in the morning warms up the fowl and quickly digests. An hour or so after this meal the fowl becomes hungry and makes a search for food. If there is litter in the house or scratching shed she will start right in to work. There is always more or less grain left in the litter from the evening feed, and this gives the busy fowl

an inducement to exercise. At noon we scatter a little grain (generally wheat) in the litter, and at night we give a full meal, which is an ordinary handful to each fowl. This plan has always proved satisfactory to our stock. Another reason why we prefer whole grain at night, is on account of it remaining in the crop longer than a soft mash. A fowl with food in the crop does not mind the cold so much as one with an empty crop.

MISCELLANEOUS.

V. J. C.: The best and quickest methods for breaking up broody hens is given by different correspondents in the October issue of A FEW HENS, in our Brevity Symposium.

F. L. F.: The results obtained in our matings of a male with five females, quartered in our 4 x 4 houses, has been very successful, the hens laying as well as those in larger flocks and better quarters, and the fertility running about as high. Yes, a house 3 x 6 could be used for the same purpose. We had two nest boxes in each house.

W. S.: You can get good plans for constructing poultry houses by sending 5 cents to *Farm-Poultry*, 22 Custom House Street, Boston, Mass., for a back number of their paper containing the same.

H. G. F.: Belgian hares are out of our line; this is a "chicken paper."

R. E. W.: A good cat kept in the feed room at night would soon clean the premises of rats and mice.

P. O. L.: We never used raw hide paper for roofing, but those who have speak very highly of it. We may give it a test later on.

G. H. J.: Our market reports give the wholesale prices. The retail quotations would be about 3 cents above the figures given.

C. V. B.: The objection we find to a rat dog about the premises is that they are continually digging holes about buildings; we prefer a few trained cats.

Belated Odds and Ends.

Here are Some Odds and Ends That Came in Our Mail Too Late to be Classified, but Interesting Nevertheless.

Harry C. Grand, Concord, N. H.: "I do not think that enough confidence is placed in linseed meal as a poultry food. I add it to the daily mash the year round, and find it excellent in cases of hard molt and in egg production."

Arthur E. Conkey, Elmira, N. Y.: "I saw awhile ago, in A FEW HENS, that one of your subscribers does not have any faith in poultry books. He certainly must not have read the Poultry Library you advertise or he could not think that way. There are many poor books on the market, but the Farm-Poultry Series have got a poor line in them."

Lew Kilpatrick, Nashville, Tenn.: "It is often said by Northern people that

They Never Fail

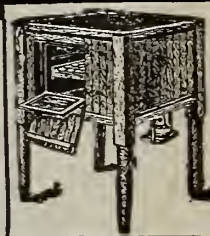
You cannot afford to risk good eggs in a poor incubator or good chicks in a poor brooder. There is no need of doing it. The

MARILLA

Incubators and Brooders

never disappoint. They are made of such good material, in such a thorough manner, and have so perfect a system of regulating heat and moisture that they are absolutely certain in results. They are sold on a positive guarantee. Your money back if you want it. Send two cents for catalogue and learn why they are the leaders. Twelve years' success behind them.

Marilla Incubator Co. Box 13, Rose Hill, N. Y.



WHITE Wyandotte

Yearling hens. First-class layers. \$2.00 each. MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammonton, N. J.



POULTRY PAPER, illust'd, 20 pages, 25 cents per year. 4 months' trial 10 cents. Sample Free. 64-page practical poultry book free to yearly subscribers. Book alone 10 cents. Catalogue of poultry books free. Poultry Advocate, Syracuse, N. Y.

EVERY MOTHER SHOULD
Have it in the House
To cure the common ailments that may occur in every family as long as life has woes.

JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT
has been used and indorsed since 1810, to relieve or cure every form of Pain and Inflammation: Is Safe, Soothing, Sure. Otherwise it could not have existed for almost a Century.

JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT
Is strictly a family remedy for Internal as much as External use
To cure Colds, Croup, Coughs, Catarrh, Cramps and Colic it acts promptly.

Originated by an old Family Physician. Trust what time has indorsed. Sold by Druggists. Price 25 and 50c. Book Treatment of Disease sent free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

we Southerners do not praise anything the Yankees may get up. That may be so and it may not, but I wish to break that by saying the best edited and most sensible poultry publication in the world is Uncle Mike Boyer's A FEW HENS, and I don't care if it is published in the North."

Chas. E. Selkirk, Buffalo, N. Y.: "On page 64, October number of A FEW HENS, you want to hear from those interested in the *American Poultry Magazine*, Shannon City, Iowa. They acknowledged receipt of money and sent the little book, but no paper has been received. Recently they said the subscriptions would be cared for by some responsible parties."

John E. Stokes, Hamburg, Pa.: "What seems to be the trouble with the White Faced Black Spanish? I have kept that breed for years and have a reputation for selling the largest white eggs of any poulterer in the country around here. I find the Spanish not only good layers, but first-class table fowls. I would indeed be sorry to see this noble breed go entirely out of existence."

Harvey E. Morse, Natick, Mass.: "I believe if I had to confine myself to one breed alone, it would be the Light Brahma. I keep nothing but the Felch strain, but I have tried nearly every other prominent strains. The Brahma with me makes a very good broiler, a grand roaster and the best Winter layer of dark brown eggs."

Chester A. Crowell, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.: "I do not want to set myself up as an expert, neither do I wish to advise the older members of the fraternity. But I do wish to say that I firmly believe that more success would come to poulterers in general if they would breed more generally from one and two-year old hens instead of pullets. My favorite matings are yearling hens with cockerels. This is my opinion after nearly twenty years' constant work in the poultry yard."

W. H. Ransom, Reading, Pa.: "I am glad to see A FEW HENS refusing to fill its columns with Belgian hare boom articles. What has the hare in common with poultry? Besides, it will not be long before the bottom will drop out of this craze and then the enthusiasts will be figuring just how much money they lost. Am indeed glad that Uncle Mike could not be led into helping this hobby."


R. T. Ludlow, Trenton, N. J.: "I am afraid the tendency is becoming too strong for increasing the size of our breeds. It is a great mistake. To have Brahmas the size of ostriches, Plymouth Rocks the size of Brahmas, and Wyandottes the size of Plymouth Rocks will not do either of the breeds any good. On the other hand, I am sorry to see that fanciers are making the Leghorns so small. I am opposed to these extremes. There should be more uniformity."

J. W. Strowbridge, Dundee, N. Y.: "This year I have 231 Wyckoff S. C. White Leghorn pullets and 30 yearlings. They will be housed in a 108 foot six section house, Hunter's plan, and a 16 x 32 foot house, two compartments, Lambert's plan. The houses

are equipped with traps, and I expect to send you some big records the coming year. A pullet hatched April 7, laid her first egg at 140 days, laid 13 eggs and then tried to sit—unlucky 13."

Henry Eburne, South Vancouver, British Columbia: "I have my birds divided in scratching shed pens of 25 each. I feed as follows: Breakfast, 1 1-2 quarts wheat, in litter, to each pen; about 10 o'clock green clover or cabbages; noon, 1 1-2 pints boiled oats; night, all the mash they will eat. I have hitherto fed mash in morning, but intend feeding it at night this year and note results. The mash is composed of equal parts of ground oats, ground barley, shorts and bran (by measure) and to every quart of above mixture, while dry, add one quart of Bowker Animal Meal and a little Sheridan's Condition Powder; this mixed with cut clover boiled. I do not use cornmeal, as this is not a very cold country, and think barley meal takes its place. Cannot get

IT COST US \$4,000 Costs You 15c



We have spent \$4,000 on our new book "How to Make Money with Poultry and Incubators." It tells it all. Leading poultry men have written special articles for it. 192 pages, 8x11 in. Illustrated. It's as good as **Cyphers Incubator**—and it's the best. Out hatch any other machine. 16 page circular free. Send 15 cts. in stamps for \$4,000 book No. 29.

Address nearest office. **CYPHERS INCUBATOR CO.**
Boston, Mass. Wayland, N. Y. Chicago, Ill.

200 Eggs a Year PER HEN.

Is the name of the best book on egg production and profits in poultry yet written. Practical, not theoretical. Author has a record of 214 eggs a year apiece from his Wyandottes. Commended by Hunter, Boyer, Curtis and others. "First-class," says one. "Invaluable," says another. "Tells more family secrets than any book I have ever seen," says a third. Tells how to start pullets laying in the Fall; just what to feed and how much for eggs; how to make a trap nest box; how to get fertile eggs; how to keep chicks from dying in the shell; gives the great law of sex, how to get males or females at will, which applies not only to fowls, but to domestic animals and to mankind; how to make from \$1,000 to \$2,500 a year from hens, etc. etc. Sixty-four pages. Price 50 cents. Circular free.

E. L. WARREN, Wolfboro, N. H.

green cut bone, so feed Animal Meal every day."

Jay Cooke Howard, Duluth, Minn.: "I have just completed a very good house, 8 x 16 feet, two pens 8 x 8 feet. It is well constructed. The house is built of good lumber throughout. The outer wall is made of good boards, over which is thick tar paper, and on that four inch siding. The inner wall of matched flooring, giving a dead air space of four inches. The roof is of Standard Asphalt roofing, which I believe will be very good. There will be no floor, but the frame is about a foot above the ground, and this allowed a filling in of rocks, gravel, earth and ashes of about 18 inches. The front of the building is seven feet and the rear four feet. We are now at work on a second house. My idea at present is to keep 120 laying hens in scratching shed houses—40 S. C. Brown Leghorns, half pullets and half hens; 40 Light Brahmas, half pullets; 40 White Wyandottes, half pullets. There will be 20 in a pen, making six pens. I shall keep trap nest records. Will kill off the two-year old hens each Fall and make room for pullets. I allow each pen a run of 50 x 100 feet. It is uneven ground, with a creek through it and plenty of shrubbery for shade, and plenty of clover in Summer."

MARYLAND Thoroughbred Barred Plymouth Rock Farm. E. B. Thompson's strain. Settings \$1.00. A. DeR. MEARES, Hyattsville, Md.

TRY THE PRACTICAL HEN SEPARATOR Separates the layers from the non-layers. Equal to the best. Plans 75c. E. A. Joslyn, Hammononton, N. J.

BARRED P. ROCK Cockerels for sale. Parents won first, second and third at Bristol, Conn. Write for prices. C. F. Bourgeois, Cromwell, Conn.

S. C. Wh. Leghorns

Choice yearling hens and cockerels for sale at \$2.00 each. **MICHAEL K. BOYER**, Hammononton, N. J.

BIG BARGAIN.

One Straw Cutter, nearly new, cost \$10; one round Stove, suitable for barn or chicken house, cost \$9; one large size Parlor Oil Stove, cost \$9.50. If sold to one party, \$14 for lot. **H. MELVILLE SMITH**, 113 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, N. J.

FOUR Poultry Papers

For \$1.25.

Your Own Choice of TWO of Them.

FARM-POULTRY, semi-monthly,	-	-	-	Price, \$1.00
A FEW HENS, monthly,	-	-	-	Price, .25

YOUR CHOICE OF ANY OTHER TWO 50 Ct. POULTRY PAPERS IN THE U. S., \$1.00.

All sent to one address, one year, for the small sum of \$1.25, cash in advance, which is the price of *Farm-Poultry* and *A Few Hens* alone.

YOU SAVE \$1.00 COLD CASH.

Send all orders to us, with cash, stamps or money orders. Do not send checks unless you add 10 cts. for exchange. No changes allowed after order is entered. Postage added in town where paper published.

FARM-POULTRY PUB. CO., 22 Custom House Street, Boston, Mass.

Our Market Report.

An Accurate Account of the Highest, Lowest and Average Prices for the Best Market Stock, Paid During the Month of October—Goods Not up to the Standard Received Proportionately Less.

NEW YORK.

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Fresh eggs.....	30	26	28
Broilers, dressed....	14	12	13
Fowls, dressed.....	11	9	10
Ducks, dressed.....	14	12	13
Spring Turkeys, dressed ..	14	10	12
Turkey hens, dressed	10	9	9 1-2
Turkey toms, dressed	10	8	9
Old Roosters, dressed.....	5 1-2	5	5 1-4
Geese, dressed.....	16	12	14
Fowls, live.....	11	9	10
Chickens, live.....	11	7	9
Roosters, live.....	8	4 1-2	6 1-4
Turkeys, live.....	11	8	9
Ducks, live, pair.....	.65	.50	.57 1-2
Geese, live, pair.....	\$1.00	\$1.37	\$1.18 1-2

PHILADELPHIA.

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Fresh Eggs.....	25	21	23
Hens, live.....	10	9	9 1-2
Hens, dressed	11	9	10
Old Roosters, live.....	8	6 1-2	7 1-4
Old Roosters, dressed	7	6 1-2	6 3-4
Spring Chickens, live	10	8 1-2	9 1-4
Spring Chickens, dressed	15	11	13

BOSTON.

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Eggs, nearby and Cape	30	26	28
Chickens, dressed.....	18	16	17
Fowls, dressed	13	12	12 1-2
Fowls, live.....	10	11	10 1-2
Roosters, live.....	6	5 1-2	5 3-4
Roosters, dressed.....	7 1-2	7	7 1-4
Ducks, dressed	12	10	11
Turkeys, old.....	10	8	9
Turkeys, Spring.....	14	12	13
Broilers.....	18	16	17
Spring Chickens, live.....	12	10	11

CHICAGO.

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Eggs, fresh.....	20	18	19
Chickens, hens, scalded....	8	6 1-2	7 1-4
Chickens, hens, alive.....	8	7	6
Spring Chickens, live.....	8	8	8
Roosters, live.....	5	5	5
Ducks, live, old.....	8	7 1-2	7 3-4
Ducks, Spring, dressed....	9	8 1-2	8 3-4
Geese, live, per dozen.....	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00
Turkey hens, dressed.....	8	7	7 1-2
Turkey hens, live.....	7	6	6 1-2
Turkey gobblers, dressed..	8	6	7
Turkey gobblers, live.....	7	6	6 1-2

FOR SALE. Two incubators, 200-egg capacity. 12 tank brooders. Cheap. Apply Box 45, Rapids, O.

BARRED Plymouth Rock Eggs. \$2 per 13; \$4 per 50; \$7 per 100. Fine vigorous stock from leading strains. Abram Tallman, Englewood, N. J.

\$ a sitting. W. Wyandottes, Br. Leghorns. Scored stock. Hollyrood Poultry Farm, Crescent, La.

BIG MAIL for poultrymen. Insert your name in our Poultry Directory and receive poultry papers, poultry catalogues, etc., every day, only 10 cents. Poultry Directory Co., Goshen, Ind.

FOR SALE. Two Prairie State hot water brooders good as new. Original cost \$20 each. Will sell the two for \$15.
MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammonton, N. J.

I. K. FELCH & SON,

Box K, Natick, Mass.

Light Brahmas, Plymouth Rocks, and White Wyandottes,

—BRED ON PRACTICAL LINES.—

Standard Points and Egg Records Combined. Enclose stamps for 24 page catalogue.

Geese for Profit.

Where One is Situated With a Generous Supply of Pasturage, Goose Culture Can be Made a Profitable Industry.

The Hebrews use goose oil instead of lard.

Geese do not require a high or tight fence.

The culture of geese is a neglected industry.

It costs about \$1.00 a year to properly keep a goose.

The Hebrews of our large cities are the best customers.

A low, marshy field with a little upland does splendid for geese.

There is no chance for loss in goose culture if properly managed.

Geese for Christmas should be on the market by December 20th.

In the Eastern markets green geese generally command broiler prices.

Goose oil has served as a panacea for rheumatism, lumbago, stiff joints, sprains, etc., from time immemorial.

A quick way to fatten geese is to put a few in a darkened pen and feed a pound of oats per day to each one. They fatten in two weeks.

J. D. Rice says it is better to raise one goose and sell it at a profit of one dollar, than to raise 100 bushels of wheat and sell it at a loss.

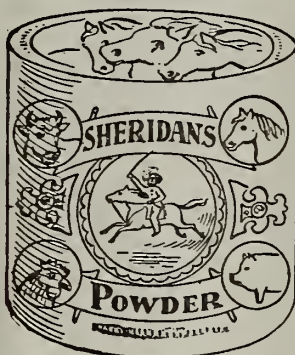
Hungarians, Poles, Hollanders, Bavarians, Germans, Bohemians, etc., are especially fond of goose flesh, and prefer it to other kinds of meat for Christmas and holiday feasts.

An exchange says that while geese are a water fowl, by giving them plenty of fresh water to drink and keeping them away from the barnyard and stagnant water that accumulates there, geese can be raised with equally as good results as if raised on the banks of a stream.

Among our most valuable breeds of geese, the Embden is one of the best, says *Ohio Poultry Journal*. The rivalry between it and the Toulouse has been sharp in past years, but the Embden seems the choice of late years, owing to its pure white plumage and ability to put on flesh rapidly.

J. D. Rice, in *Inter-State Poultryman*, says he does not believe the cheapest way to keep geese is for them to make their own living by grazing as some will tell you. Better feed them some grain and keep them in a good thriving condition and they will give you a better return. He always feeds his till after the laying season is over and then if they have a run with plenty of pasture he feeds but little till Fall, but they must be fed during Winter.

The *Ohio Poultry Journal* says in our grandmothers' days feather beds,



They Succeed Best

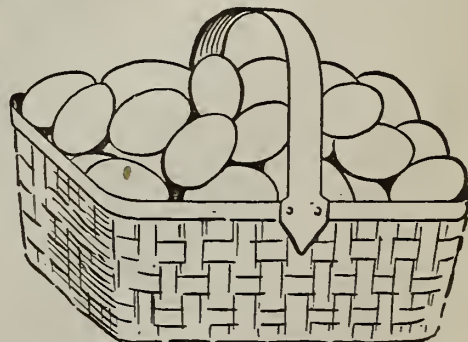
in keeping poultry for profit, who study cause and effect carefully. Many successful Poultry-raisers have learned by experience that the cause of a very bountiful supply of eggs in the fall and winter, when prices rule high is, proper care, feeding and management, which they have learned by experience includes the use in the mash food, once daily,

Sheridan's Condition Powder.

It helps to mature the young pullets early so they will lay when five or six months of age.

CAUSE AND EFFECT

No matter what kind of foods you use, Sheridan's Powder is absolutely necessary to cause the desired effect namely, a well filled basket of eggs daily. It gets old hens over molting period quickly; it develops to laying maturity the young pullets. It causes perfect assimilation of the food elements needed to effect growth, prevent disease and produce eggs.



NOTHING ON EARTH
WILL
MAKE HENS LAY
LIKE
SHERIDAN'S
CONDITION POWDER

It is absolutely pure; Highly concentrated; Most economical, because such small doses; No other kind made like it. In quantity it costs less than one-tenth cent a day per hen.

Sold by Druggists, Grocers and Feed Dealers, or sent by mail. Large cans most economical to buy.

IF YOU CAN'T GET IT NEAR HOME, SEND TO US. ASK FIRST.
We send one pack, 25 cts; five, \$1.00. A two-pound can, \$1.20; Six, \$5.00. Express paid. Sample copy "best Poultry paper" sent free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

feather bolsters and pillows, were declared absolutely necessary for home comfort, and no well-regulated house could boast of its furniture and bedding without full sets of beds, bolsters and pillows, comfortably filled with live geese feathers, which passed from mother to daughter when the latter took up housekeeping. But, alas, the good old days and their simple and innocent habits and customs have passed away, perhaps never to return. The Embden is uniformly pure white, has prominent blue eyes, flesh colored beak, bright orange legs, remarkably strong neck, and its feathers incline to curl from the shoulders to the head; are very hardy and well adapted to our climate; can easily be fenced in when needed, and show to pleasing advantage on a stream or artificial sheet of water, says Ohio *Poultry Journal*. They are good layers when kept at natural weight, and their flesh, when prepared for the table, is excellent in every respect, as it is free from the strong taste noticeable in the meat of old common geese, and is tender and juicy when properly cooked.

Dora Stephenson, in Wisconsin *Farmer*, says one reason why geese are not used more in this country is because so many do not know how to dress and clean them. She has often heard the remark that a goose is not fit to eat, but a young goose properly cooked is a dish fit for a king. To clean take common wash boiler, putting two bricks in each end, and pour in a gallon of water. Make a frame of lath to fit on top of the bricks, then when the water is boiling lay your goose on the frame and put on the lid to the boiler. Steam it for about three minutes, or till the feathers come out, turning the goose when it has been in the boiler about two minutes. The feathers must pull easy as they do when a chicken is scalded. Now get a thin sack of any kind and pick your feathers into it and hang them up to dry, when they will be fit to use the same as dry picked ones. To roast prepare the same as any other fowl. One of the patent roasting pans is best. When your goose has been roasting about two and one-half or three hours, take the pan out and skim of all the fat that is melted. If the goose is young it should be tender in four hours. The goose must be fat to be good. Miss Stephenson says she steamed over a hundred last Winter and sent to the Chicago market, saving all the feathers.

MY BROWN LEGHORNS

are great layers. Cockerels and pullets for sale after September 15. Breeding stock now at a bargain. Eggs in season. LEE SHORT, Lower Cabot, Vt.

Green Cut Clover

NIAGARA BRAND.

Best grade on the market. It is well known and endorsed by leading poultrymen. Cured very green. Cut in 1-8 in. lengths and screened to take out all long stems. No crop bound fowls when you use our Clover.

Niagara Poultry Food

Best balanced ration on the market yet for laying hens and growing chicks. Contains our Cut Clover, also best quality beef scraps and bone. A complete food. Try some and be convinced. \$1.50 per 100 lbs.; \$7.00 per 500 lbs. Prices to the trade. Samples and circulars free.

Specialty—Breeders of Mammoth P. Ducks, pure W. Wyandottes, large Belgian Hares, meat and pedigree stock. Write us if you want good stock or eggs. W. R. CURTISS & CO., Ransomville, N. Y.

People We Know.

Facts and News Gleaned Especially for A FEW HENS About People We Know.

Attention is called to the advertisement in this issue of the trap nest plans as advertised by E. A. Joslyn, Hammonton, N. J. This nest is a very good one, does accurate work and is very simple to make. It is all that Mr. Joslyn claims for it.

The October issue of the *American Fancier*, Johnstown, N. Y., is a special Langshan edition. Editor Drevenstedt has collected for that number some of the best MSS that could be secured on the subject, and those who wish to know what a grand good breed the Langshan is, should send 5 cents to the *Fancier* for a copy. Send early before the edition is exhausted.

Mr. F. O. Wellcome, Yarmouth, Maine.

Dear Sir:—Yours of the 5th at hand, and I would say in reply that I have fifty (50) nests with your pattern attachment in use, and they work to perfection. I can cheerfully recommend them to any intending purchaser. The book I consider the best written and most explicit piece of literature that has come to my notice for the proper understanding of the mechanism of poultry appliances. Respectfully, C. P. Punchard, Framingham, Mass.

That enterprising firm, the Woods Egg Holder Co., St. Louis, Mo., have just gotten out a fresh lot of circulars advertising their goods, and which should be in the hands of all poultrymen. Those writing them and mentioning A FEW HENS, can have the literature free. This firm makes egg cabinets, egg shipping boxes and egg holders of all descriptions. We use the goods on A FEW HENS' Experimental Farm and can fully indorse them.

F. O. Wellcome, Yarmouth, Maine, has published a book on instructions for preparing and using the Ideal trap nest, that is not only a valuable work, but it is a work of art in poultry literature. The nest is explained in full, the subject of ventilation is fully and clearly described, illustrations and instructions for mak-

Do Your Chicks Die?

Don't lose them after you have gone to the trouble of hatching them.

FIDELITY FOOD

For Young Chicks

will save their lives and promote their growth. Recommended by leading poultrymen for chicks just out of the shell. Composed of nutritious portions of selected seeds, grains, etc., with all injurious parts eliminated. Fidelity Food for Young Chicks, used by leading fanciers and practical poultrymen, 25 lbs., \$1.25; 50 lbs., \$2.00; in bbls., \$3.50 per 100 lbs. Circulars free.

PINELAND INCUBATOR AND BROODER CO.,
Box E, Jamesburg, New Jersey.

We also put up food for egg production and a good food for fattening.

Important Notice!

I have just been appointed the General Eastern Agent for the renowned

Reliable Incubators and Brooders.

These are the best machines on the market and I respectfully solicit your orders. Same service, same price, same guarantee, at less cost to you. Circulars free. Poultry Supplies of all kinds. D. LINCOLN ORR, Box 9, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

WYCHILD'S WYANDOTTES

WHITES AND SILVERS

EXCLUSIVELY.

YOUNG STOCK NOW READY.

Circular for stamp. WM. H. CHILD, Hatboro, Pa.

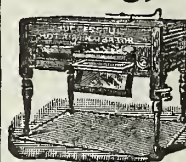
BARRETT ROCKS.

A few nice cockerels and pullets bred from A. C. Hawkins and Bradley Bros. stock. Cockerels \$2.00; trios \$5.00. They are fine for the money. Your money back if not satisfied. Write your wants. C. C. SHORB, McDaniel, Md.

Our Brown Egg

White Wyandottes, R. I. Reds are pedigree bred for heavy laying by trap nests. My Wyandottes won 1st cock; 2d, 3d hens; 3d pen; 1st eggs, Manchester, N. H. show, 1900. Scored 92 to 95 each. Stock scoring high from heavy layers \$1.00 each and upwards. C. E. DAVIS, Warner, N. H.

Strong, Healthy Chicks



are hatched by our incubators, and more of them than hens can hatch. Why? Because our regulator never fails to keep the heat just right. Catalogue printed in 5 languages gives full descriptions, illustrations and prices, and much information for poultry raisers. Sent for 6 cents.

DES MOINES INCUBATOR CO.,
Box 423 Des Moines, Ia.

THOROUGHbred

S. C. W. Leghorns

Bred for great egg production. Yearling hens and cockerels for sale, 75 cents each. Discount on large orders. Eggs in season. F. J. BARNES, Turin, N. Y.

BUFFINTON'S BUFFS!

Buff and Partridge Wyandottes, Buff and Barred Plymouth Rocks, Buff and White Leghorns, Buff Cochins, Rose, Single and Pea Comb Rhode Island Reds. Old and young stock for sale. No more eggs for sale until 1901.

Rowland G. Buffinton, Fall River, Mass. Box 677.

Rose Comb Brown Leghorns

Extra good breeding cockerels \$2.00 and \$3.00 each. Write for prices on trios and pullets.

C. H. CLARK, Box 1, Cobalt, Conn.

ing and applying the attachment are given, and full particulars on operating are plainly set forth. The book sells at \$2, with which goes the full permit to manufacture all you want for your own use. We are using the Ideal nest on A FEW HENS' Experimental Farm, and can vouch for its accuracy and all the inventor claims for it.

The heart of an incubator is the lamp. If the lamp is deficient in any respect an otherwise perfect machine cannot make uniformly successful hatches. One of the very best lamps made is the "Hydro-Safety" pattern made by L. R. Oakes, of Bloomington, Indiana, and advertised elsewhere in this issue. Mr. Oakes supplies his lamps to a number of incubator manufacturers, but he sells thousands every year to individual owners of incubators who find the lamps furnished on their machines unsatisfactory. The prices range from only 75 cts. each up. Write him for full particulars and tell him where you saw this ad.

We call attention to the ad. of the Marilla Incubator Co., which appears elsewhere in this issue. Many of our readers know and have used this machine which has had a most successful record extending over more than twelve seasons. During the last year the Company has removed to Rose Hill, N. Y., has built a large and completely equipped factory and is out for business in earnest. Mr. H. H. Blackman, the inventor, is associated with the present Company, of which Mr. W. E. Mills is Secretary. Write the Marilla Incubator Co., at Rose Hill, N. Y., for Catalogue, before buying an incubator.

SITUATIONS AND HELP WANTED.

Charles Thurston, Lock Box 15, Hammonton, N. J., a young married man, desires a situation on a poultry farm, in running incubators or any part of the work. Seven years' experience. Good references can be given.

F. E. Vail, 66 Franklin Avenue, Norwalk, Conn., would like to receive a student who would like to learn the business of running a broiler and egg farm. To a willing worker and one of good habits, an excellent chance will be given.

THIS PAPER will cost you only **Twenty-five Cents** for **TWELVE MONTHS**. Can you afford to do without it? We accept postage stamps in payment for it. Order at once, so as to get every issue.